

POSTER INSIDE

New Game! &
Shokugeki no Souma

Otaku

otakuasia.com

September - Oct 2016

Php 100



Pokemon GO
OA-tested Tips

AsiaPop ComiCon
Manila 2016 report

NEW GAME!

*** ニューゲーム ***

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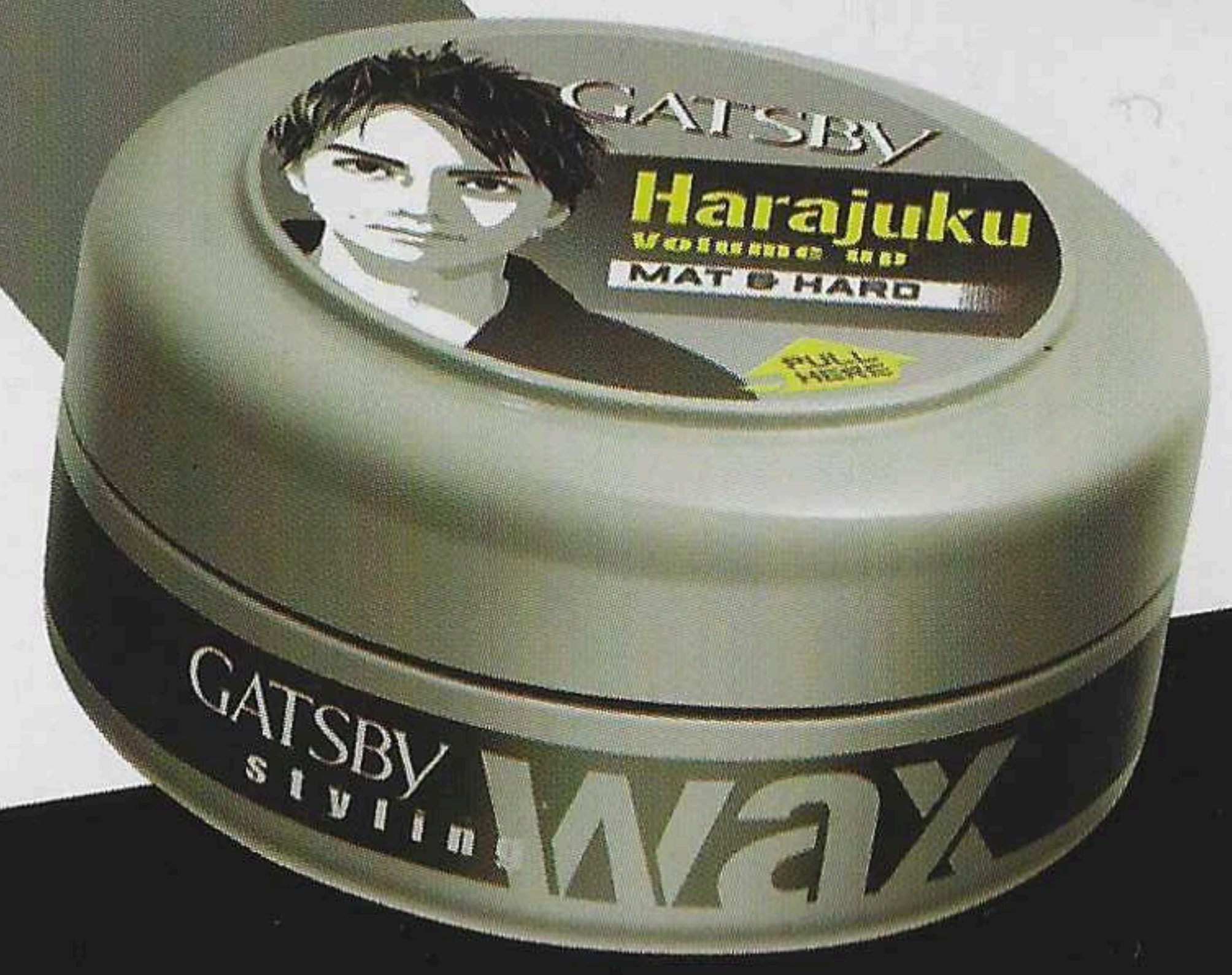
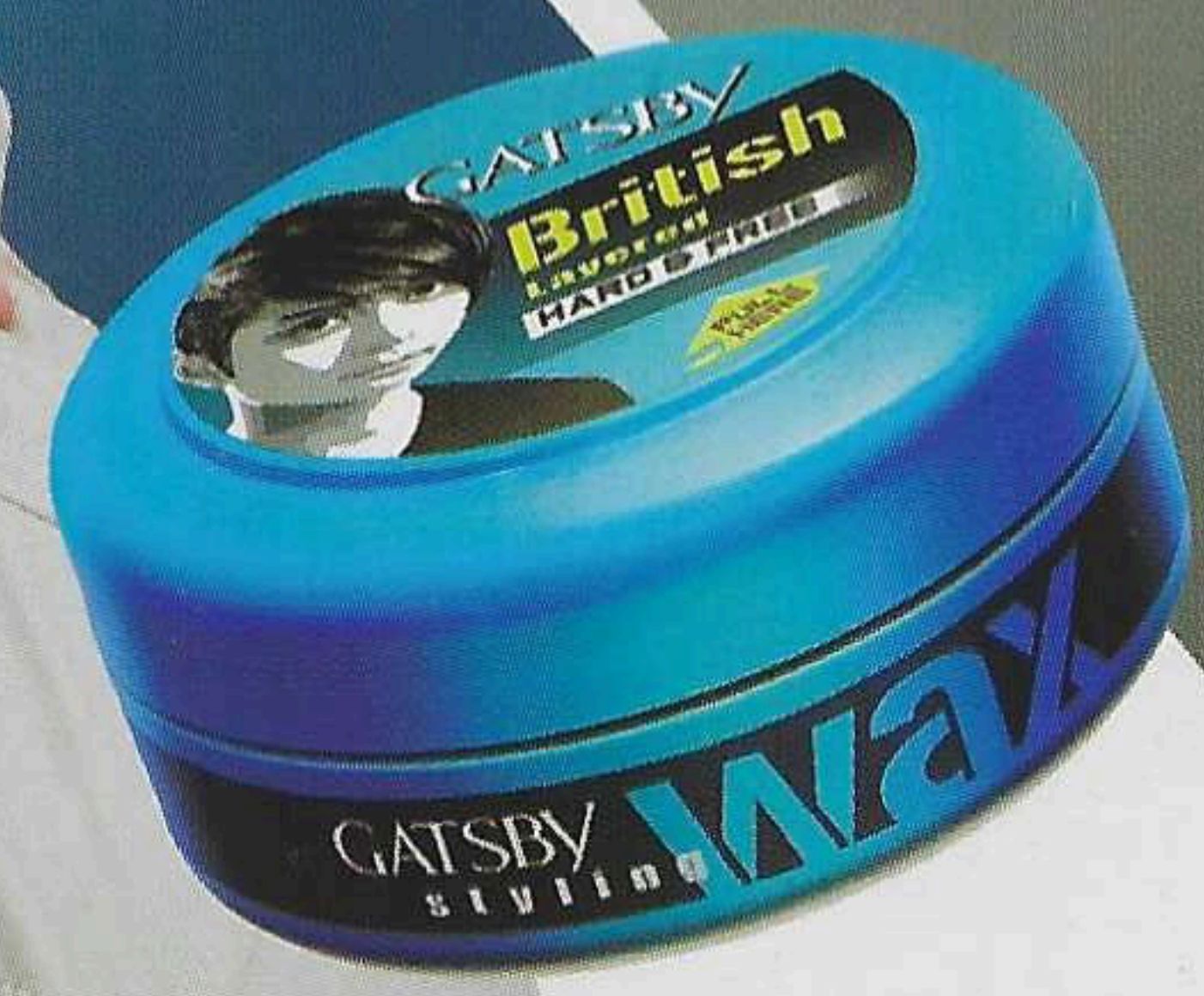
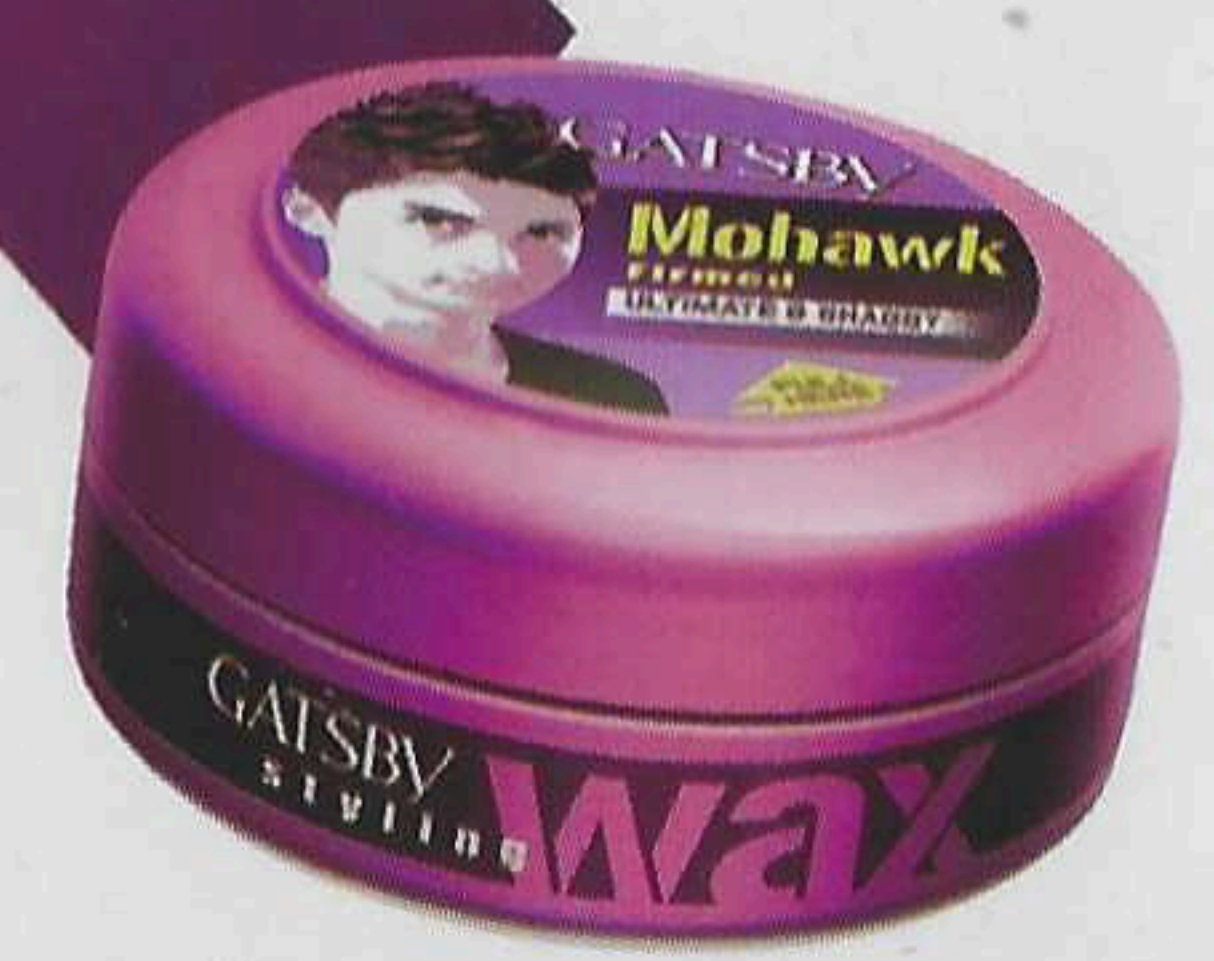
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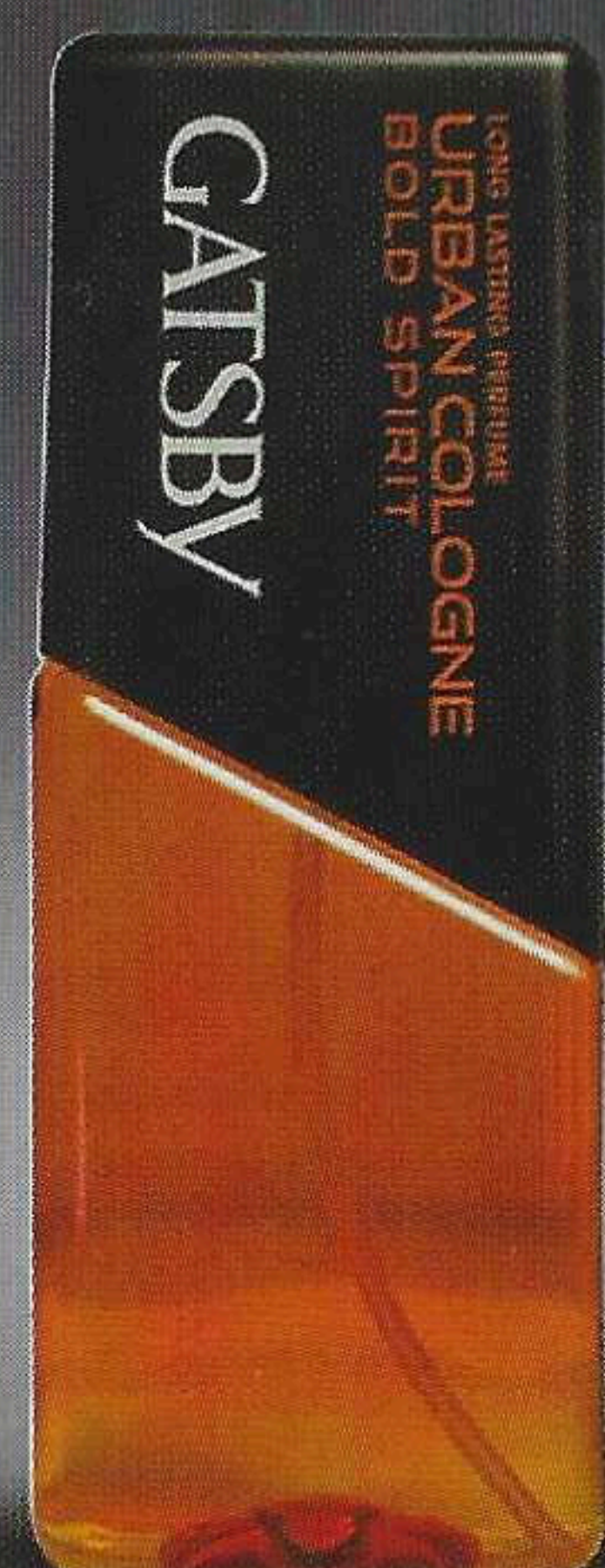
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Currently, the EIC is sick and could not go to the office but is still working on the magazine though internet and Photoshop at home. Please take care of yourselves and go to your doctor for checkups!

Moving on, we have reached the Gaming Issue of the year! Just after Rampage, we are looking forward to the E-games in AsiaPop Comicon and E-Sports and Gaming Summit (October 28-30). We also are announcing our media partnership with The Unmei Expo this October 16. Events are so much fun and so is the flourishing gaming industry in the PH.



This is me right now. Stay at home and bed rest...

This issue, we feature the anime, New Game! which is a slice of life comedy where our heroine faces her first job as a character designer in a gaming company! We also have the review of Detective Conan: The Darkest Nightmare which premiered here in SM Cinemas.

For the gamers, of course we have 13 pages of games from phone applications to PC online games to console games. Personally, I would love to play Odin Sphere while also having Touch Me! Gudetama on my phone. Who could forget Pokemon Go especially now that the hype is real. We have Otaku Asia-tested tips that could be useful for your Pokemon hunting.

The theme has also rubbed on our manga reading recommendations with The Gamer, Doupo Cangqiong, Last Game, Tate no Yuusha no Nariagari and more! The movie, Kingsglaive: Final Fantasy XV is also inside thanks to SM Cinema!

Well, that is all for now, thank you and please please drink your vitamins.
- Kandy

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Konnichiwa Otaku Asia! Kiyoshi again!

This is my second letter if you post it, and I just wanna say again that I really love your magazine. I hope you can feature my Fan art of Tetsuya Kuroko from the anime KnB. Ummm can you please feature the awesome school idol in anime "Love Live!" in your throwback section? keep up the good work, Otaku Asia! ganbatte!

Ohh BTW, greet ko lang ang mga fellow otaku's ko, Klair Rivera, Elijah Pelayo, Christine Francisco, Jim Campo, Jamie Campo at si Carldon-senpai, Christiana-senpai at ang OTAKU internet friend ko na si JV Takashima at si dj-senpai na lagi kong ka-kwentuhan pagdating sa anime magazines, that's all more power!

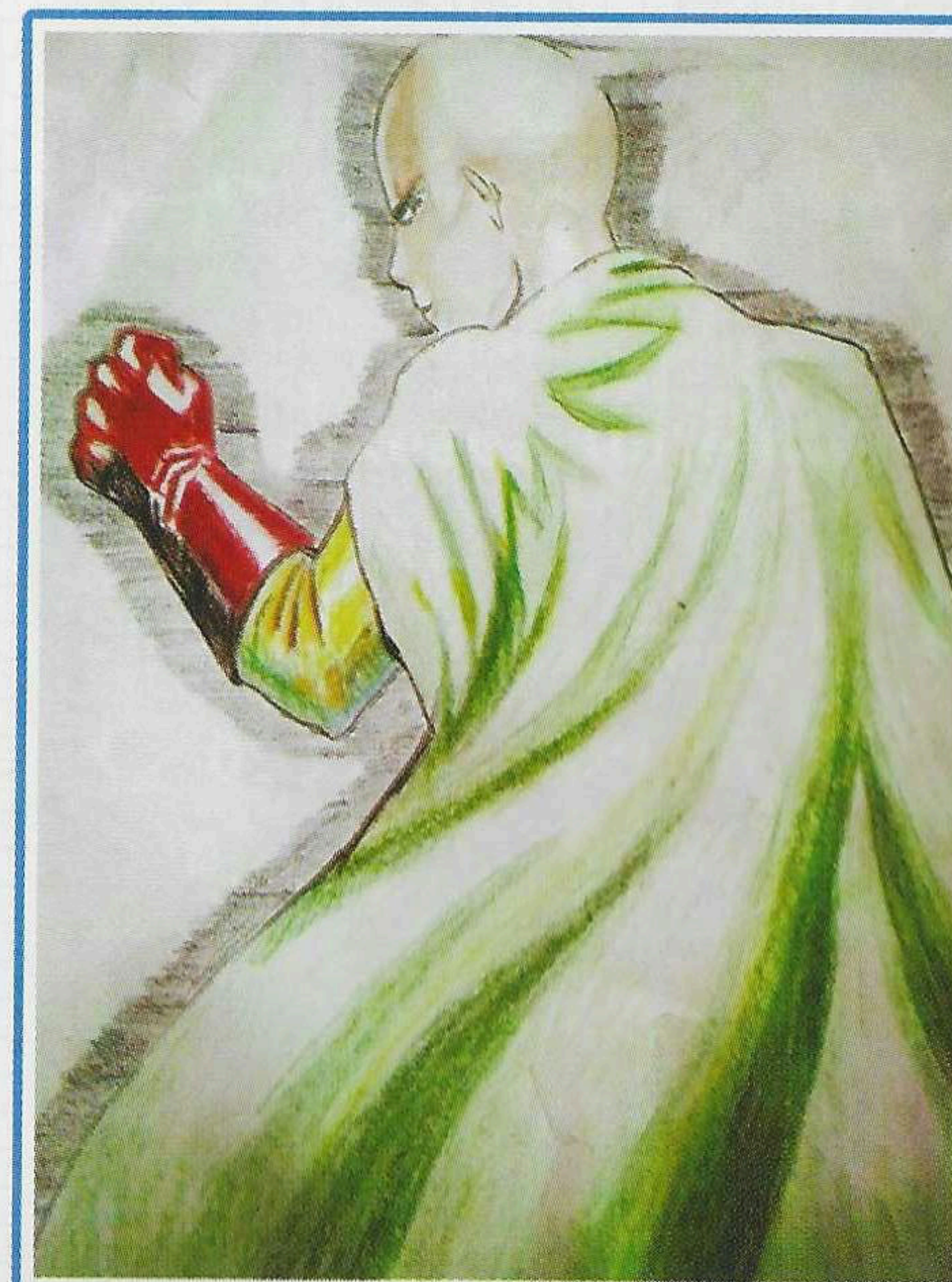
-Kiyoshi Guevarra II

Konnichiwa Otaku Asia!

Thank you na gumawa kayo ng ganito nakakatulong talaga ito ng malaki sa aming mga otaku. By the way, watashi wa Wen Chein desu, reader po ng mag niyo and ito po ang fan art ko: Alice Academy: Mikan Sakura at Natsume Hyuga. Sana po mafeature niyo po ito sa anime reviews nyo po.

Thanks.....and more power!!!!

-Wein Chein



Good day, Otaku Asia

I just want to share my fanwork of Saitama.. Ang saya basahin ng magazine Lalo pag may featured po kayu na new animés na lagi ko pong inaabangan....

Keep it up Otaku Asia. I'll be waiting till the next edition of your magazine... Good Job! Sana tuloy pa po kayu sa pagpublish.

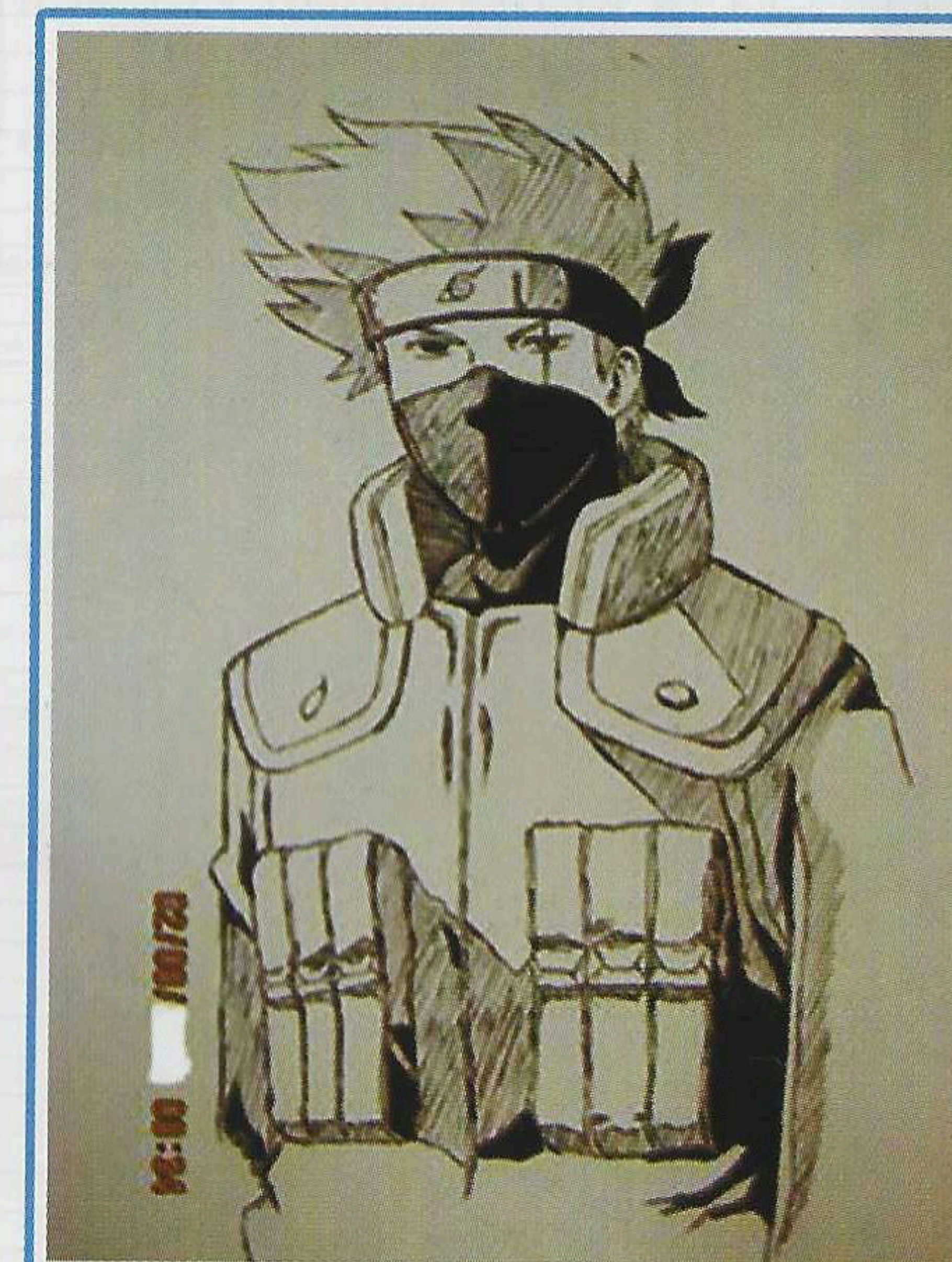
-Mark Bonie Jaravata

Konnichiwa Otaku asia mag staff and for all of you out there !!

I really like all of the OA mag that I've bought ever since the first one.. It's kinda sad that I missed the other issues (because it's not really that updated here) .. And the OA mags that I've missed were the anime that I like,, which features OPM, Shigatsu, assasination classroom, log horizon on cover and many more. Please feature overlord or angel beats in your next issue if you haven't featured it yet.. :D

Thanks !! I'll be looking forward for more awesome Otaku Asia Magazine.. God bless you all ^^

-Frank Alcedo Jr.



-Michael Dapez Hernandez



Hi there Otaku Asia!

It's my first time sharing my drawing this public. Right now I'm earning money to buy your latest issue, which features One Punch Man on the cover. My brother really loves watching anime, just sharin'. I'm gonna feel great if you include this in your next issue.

I hope you'll give updates about the upcoming Season 3 of Tokyo Ghoul and Season 2 of Kaichou Wa Maid Sama.

More power and God bless!
XOXO,

-Rin Valentino


Got Requests? Fanmail to shoutout?
Fanart to showoff?
Otaku Asia would love to hear from you!

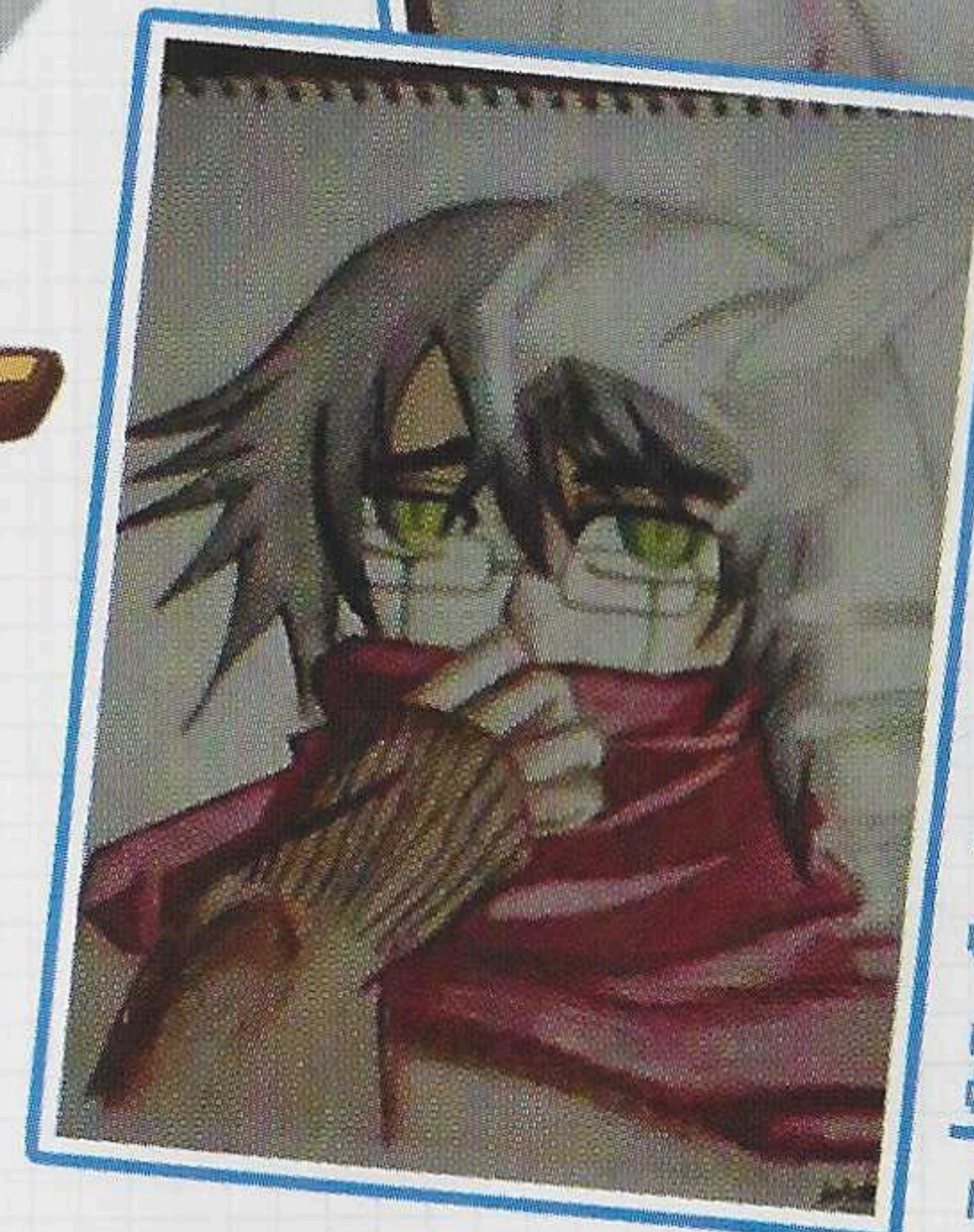
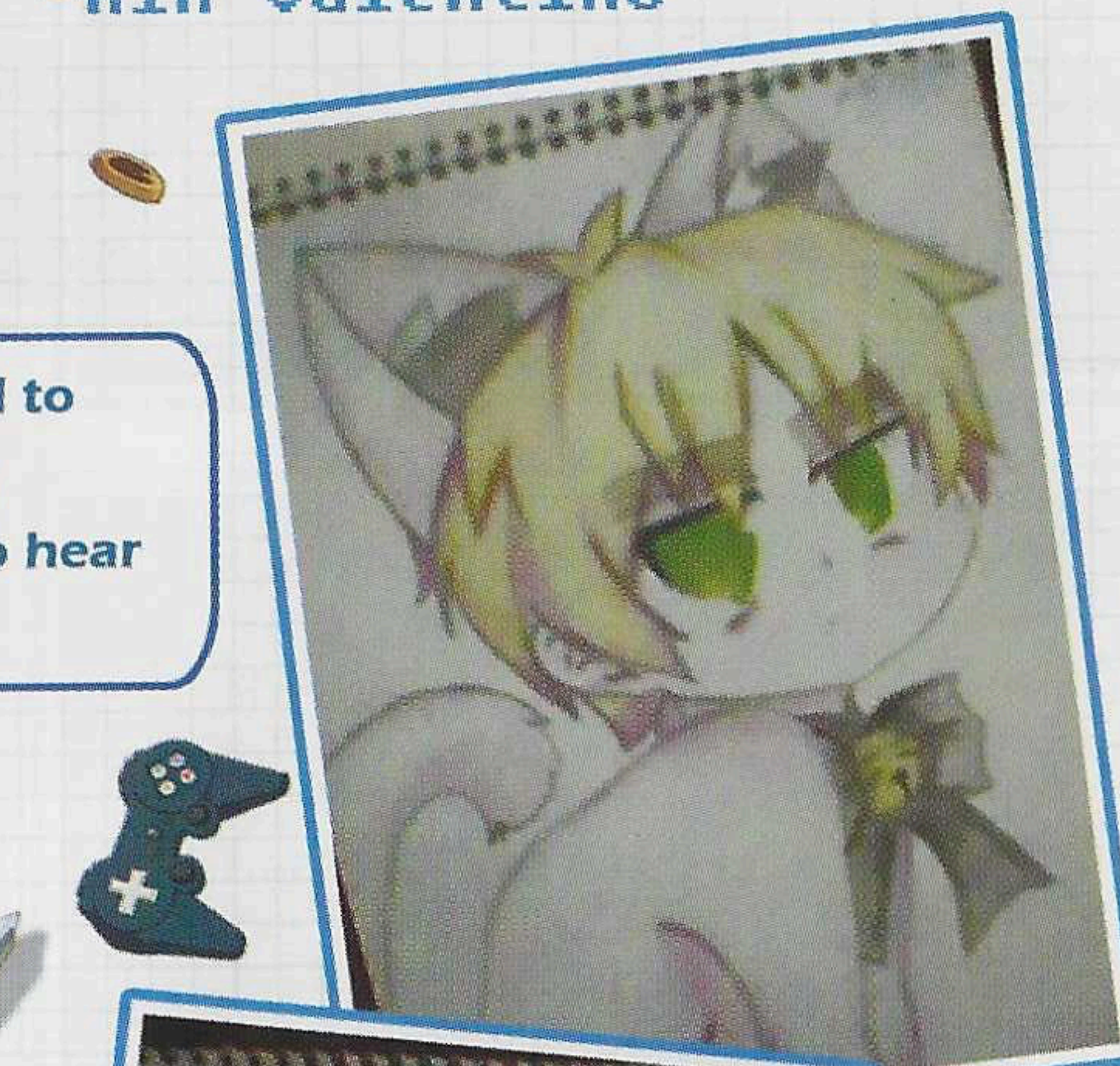


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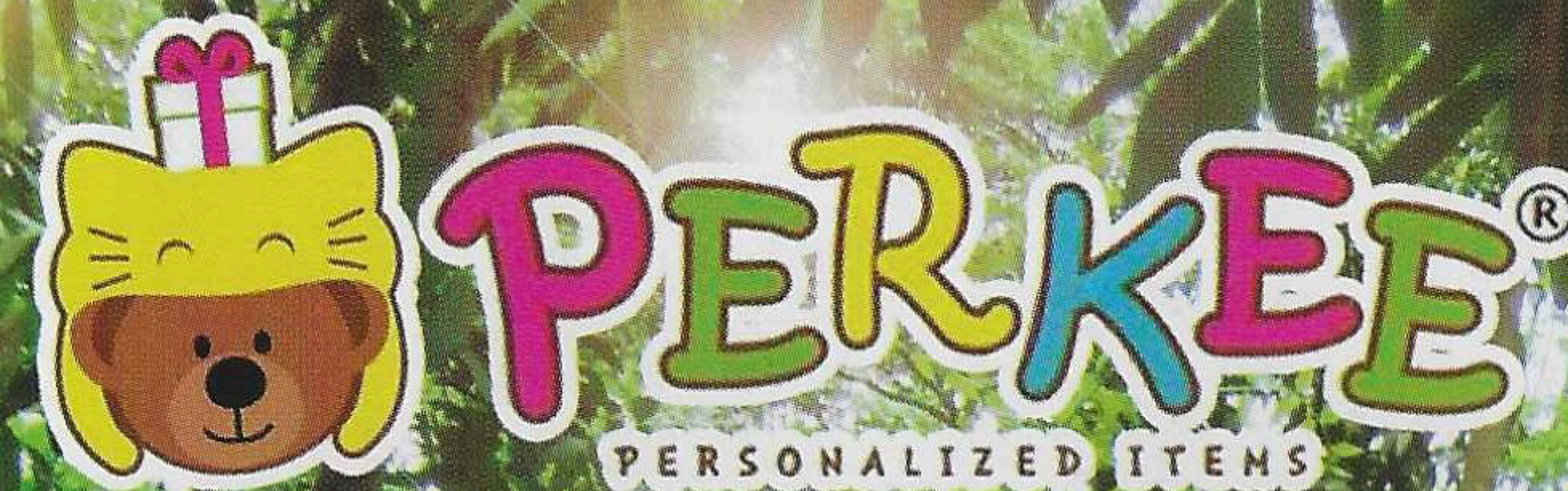
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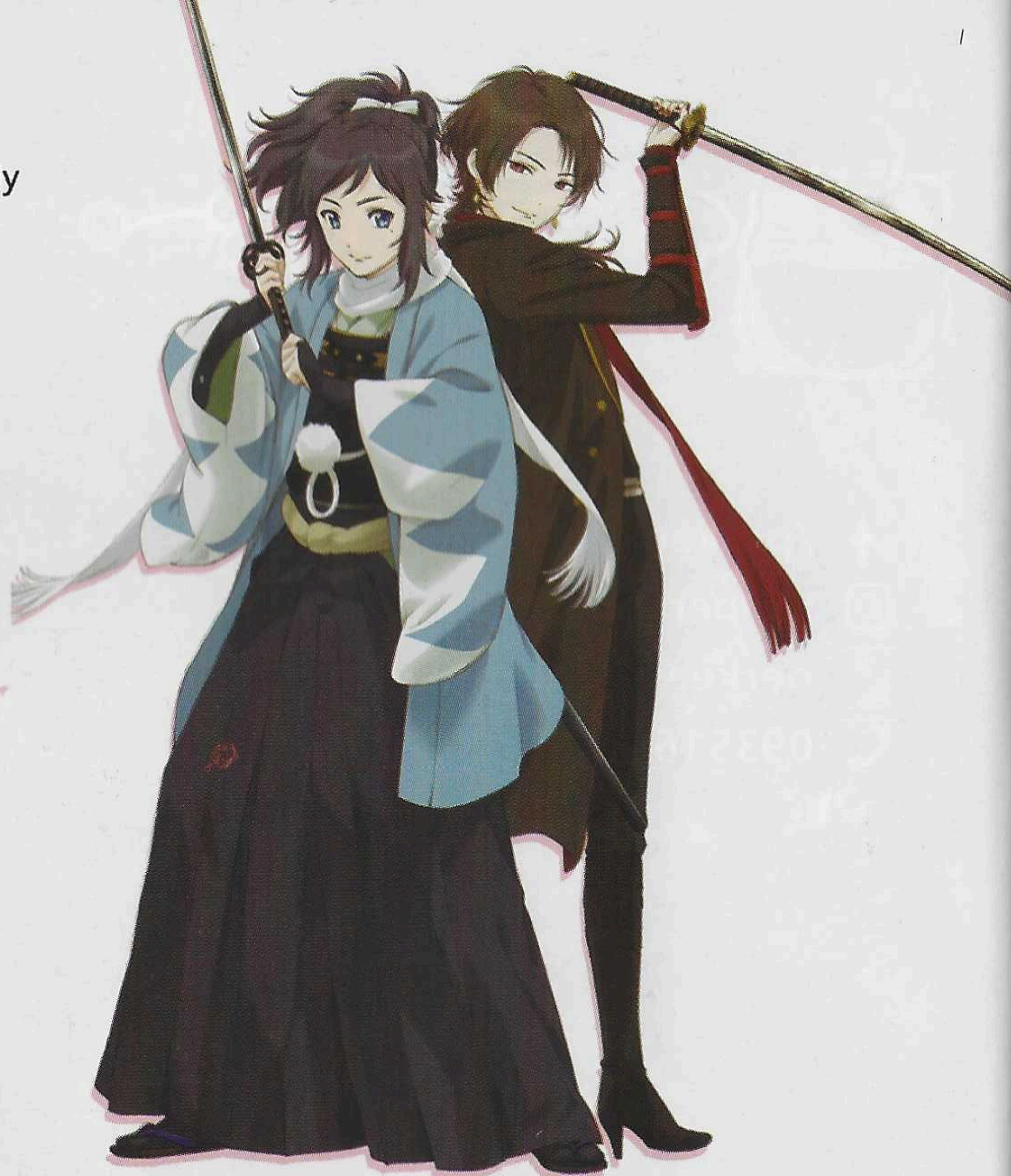
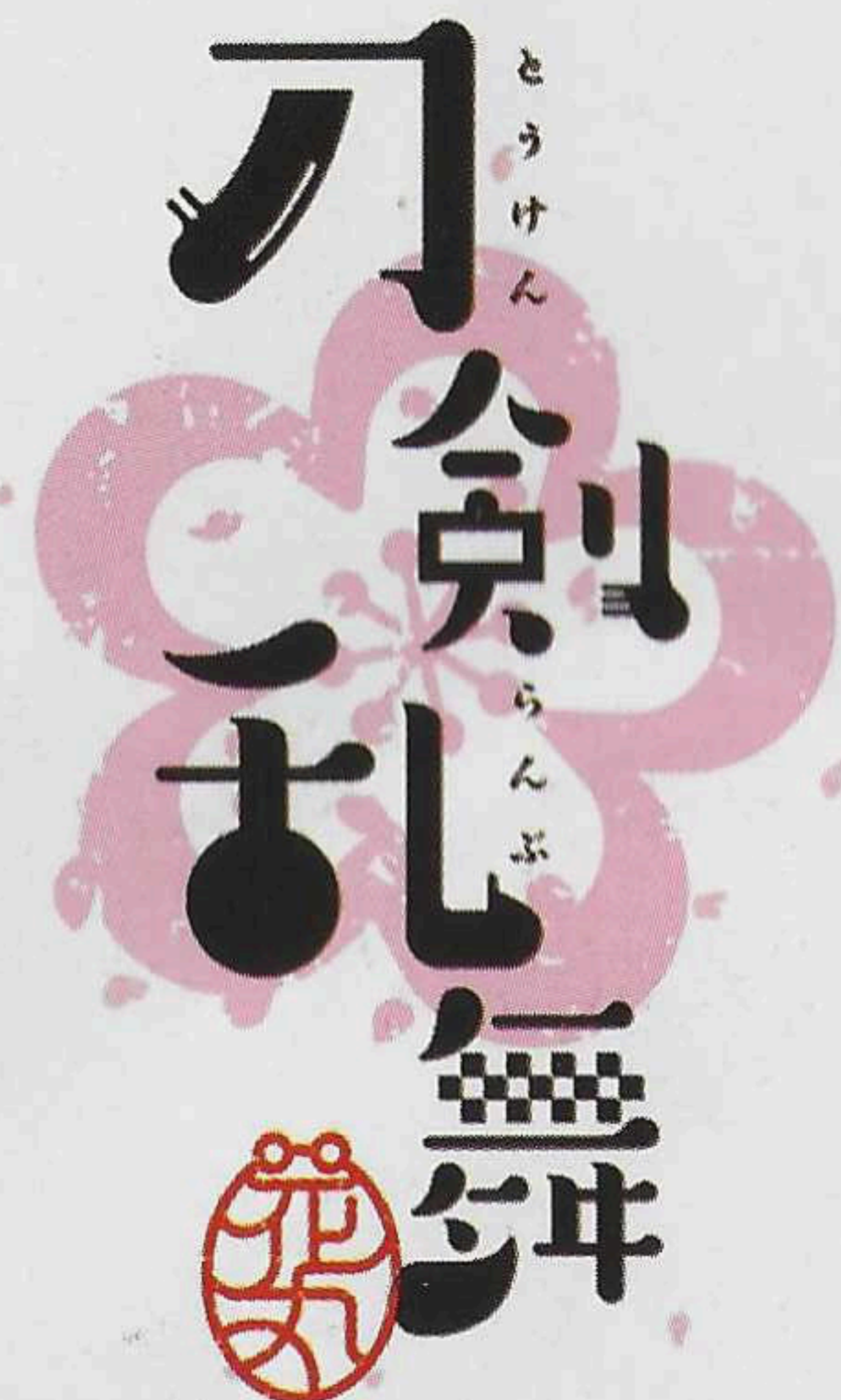
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Touken Ranbu online browser game is to get two anime adaptations and the first one is coming next anime season. Tōken Ranbu: Hanamaru has Takashi Naoya will be directing the series under Doga Kobo. The PV released last May previews the two main characters Yamatonokami Yasusada (Mitsuhiro Ichiki) and Kashū Kiyomitsu (Toshiki Masuda).

The year is 2205. The "historical revisionists" have begun attacks on the past in their plot to change history. The Saniwa, who have been charged with protecting history, can imbue life into objects. Strongest among these are the Tōken Danshi. The story centers around their cheerful lives.

(source: ANN)

Other characters include Heshikiri Hasebe (Shingaki Tarusuke), Imanotsurugi (Yamashita Daiki), Maeda Tōshirou (Irie Reona). We look forward to the anime since we are also avid followers of the game since its hype earlier this year.

Tōken Ranbu: Hanamaru official site is touken-hanamaru.jp and as expected of a Doga Kobo anime, the website feels light and sweet like the feeling is that the anime will be a slice of life.

The second anime is tentatively titled Tōken Ranbu and is set to broadcast in 2017. Ufotable is producing it. The official site is touken-anime.com and features Mikazuki Munechika. It has the feeling of an action fantasy drama.

The game is now also a stage play musical. Marvelous is adapting it to a play while Nelke Planning has made it into a musical. It has played in THEATRE1010 (Tokyo) and Mielparque Hall (Osaka). Its DVD/Blu-ray including backstage footage and curtain call on the final day is set to be released on September 7, 2016. Suzuki Hiroki plays Mikazuki Munechika.



DEATH NOTE

Light up the NEW world

This year's live-action Death Note sequel film entitled, Death Note Light up the NEW World is describes a "forbidden sequel" to the two earlier live-action films. The film is shot overseas and Warner Brothers will distribute. Set to open on October in Japan, the film has been turning heads with its hype.

Their first poster visual reads "A decade after that incident ... Six new Death Notes have been scattered." which has put Death Note back in your timelines.

In the new film's story, a highly advanced information society is beset by global cyber-terrorism in 2016. New charismatic figures, who "inherited the DNA" of Light (previously played Tatsuya Fujiwara) and the detective L (Ken'ichi Matsuyama), emerge. The successors of the two geniuses will wage a war over six Death Notes on Earth.

A crucial plot element will be the "Six-Note Rule": Only six Death Notes are allowed to exist at a time in the human world. This rule existed in the original manga, but previous adaptations in the franchise have not used this rule thus far.

The film will star (image from left) Masaki Suda as Yūki Shien, a cyber terrorist who reveres Kira; Masahiro Higashide as Tsukuru Mishima, a "Death Note otaku" and an investigator pursuing the Death Notes; Sousuke Ikematsu as Ryūzaki, L's successor and a world-famous detective and Shidou Nakamura as Ryuk who is reprising the role from the previous live-action films and anime.

Shinsuke Sato is directing the film. Aside from the film's theme song, Namie Amuro is also performing the insert song "Fighter" for the film.



September 8, Nintendo officially announced that it will be releasing a Mario game for iOS, titled, Super Mario Run. This is a big turning point for the game company whose big games are for their consoles.

It hasn't been long ago that the smartphone hit game, Pokemon Go by Niantic launched which showed just how much people are now dedicated to their smart phones. A separate company, Game Freak will be developing the game under Nintendo. This was announced by the legendary creator of Super Mario Bros., Shigeru Miyamoto at the Apple Special Event.

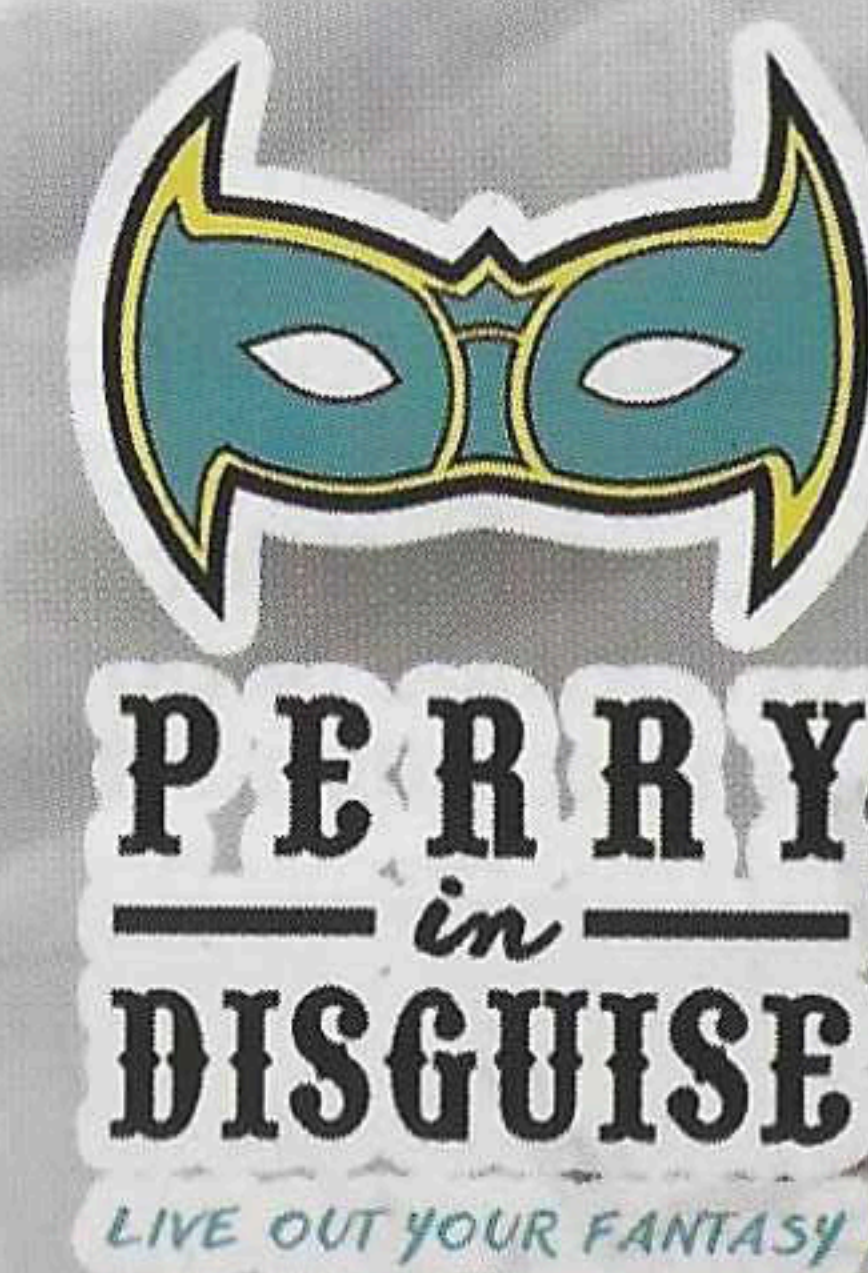
The game has been described as "a game that can be played with one hand," where Mario races against the clock to reach the end of the level. he game will have a "Toad Rally" mode for competitive open-ended gameplay (with no flagpole at the end).

October last year, Nintendo president Tatsumi Kimishima stated there would be 5 games by March 2017. Nintendo now says it will only have a total of 4 ready.

The other Nintendo games coming to smartphones are Fire Emblem and Animal Crossing. Unfortunately, Nintendo announced today both Animal Crossing and Fire Emblem for smart phones have been delayed.

Both were originally scheduled to release later this year, but it looks as though they've been pushed back to March 2017 at the latest. No more concrete dates were given.

Super Mario Run is slated for December 2016 and will have one set price without further purchases required. Nintendo is also offering a sticker set for Apple's iMessage service.



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JUST JAPAN

by Ann

If our feet could talk, they'd definitely be asking for more care from us! We may walk our way to school or work everyday and not think much of our feet, so let's give them some time for appreciation. One way to do that is to find the perfect socks for comfort! Inside or outside, the Japanese need their socks, so it's really no wonder that they put so much attention to them.



KEEP YOUR JAPANESE SOCKS ON!

In fact, the traditional Japanese socks called "tabi" have a design in which the big toe is separated from the other toes. Not only does this provide comfort, it also allows the wearer to have a better traction when it is worn with the traditional Japanese footwear (e.g. geta and zori). As such, these are worn by samurais, monks, traditional dancers and artists, martial artists, and of course, anyone wearing traditional Japanese outfit such as kimono. Another version of these socks is Jaki-tabi, which are boots with the split-toe design. Mainly used outside, these boots were normally worn by farmers, rickshaw pullers, and other workmen.



Seeing that the split-toe design can be helpful for one's health, the Japanese also made "gohon-yubi no kutsushita" or the five-toe sock a trend even though Spain invented them. These socks can be worn by anyone who wants the comfy feeling they give.

Aside from these, socks are part of the school uniform and when we think of Japanese fashion, socks come to mind as one of their avenues for self-expression. While colors give life to anything, the Japanese high school girls started styling their white socks by making them loose or baggy (most of the time with special glue). These loose socks phenomenon happened in the 1990s, but was later replaced by another trend. The girls started patronizing "kon-hai" or "kon no hai sakkosu" which are the navy blue knee high socks.

With the high regard for socks as a fashion statement and necessary aid in walking and in being healthy, the Japanese have customs when it comes to wearing them inside the house. Like most Asian countries, shoes are left by the door, while the socks remain worn inside. That is why it is very important to have clean, odor-free socks (as well as a pretty pair). In other words, you really can be judged in Japan if you enter barefooted or wearing socks that are not appropriate for the situation.

Besides customs, socks deliver a "sexy" impact through zettai ryoiki, or the gap between the skirt and the socks that shows the skin of the girls. This is very common in anime school girl designs. There are also stockings that are designed to give an impression that one is wearing socks. Some stockings have cute cat designs where the sole has a print of pink paws.

Don't let cold feet turn you away from the world of Japanese socks, and keep those socks on!





Xenosaga

KOS-MOS Ver. 2

Product Number: FG9821

Series: Xenosaga

Scale: 1/4

Price: PHP 14,944.16

Kosmos Obey Strategical Multiple Operating System or simply KOS-MOS is an android weapon equipped with artificial intelligence that was developed by Vector Industries in order to counter the Gnosis. KOS-MOS was given the name of Mary Magdalene and was originally meant to be the symbol of love, hope and healing. She was created by Kevin Winnicot and monitored by Shion Uzuki as a symbol of humanity's salvation. Unbeknownst to all, Kevin plots to use KOS-MOS for a more sinister purpose since to him; salvation means the extermination of the human race.

Despite being entirely composed of mechanical parts and a simulated personality, KOS-MOS occasionally presumes an alternate human persona in the form of blue-eyed KOS-MOS. Obviously more powerful and more human-like than her red-eyed form, her alternate persona only surfaces during extreme situations. Kevin originally decided to make KOS-MOS assume a female form not only to become suitable as Mary Magdalene, but he also believes that men are prone to war and destruction.



"Will feeling pain...make me complete?"



Sculpting

This figure's sculpting turns out to be very gorgeous. Many KOS-MOS figures have already been released during the previous years but never have there been a KOS-MOS ver.2 release until now. Her form is quite sexy and stupendous coupled with a mechanical themed base makes the figure stand out from her other figures. KOS-MOS' cool looking weapon is far from realistic, but still compliments her overall design.

Painting

The transparent body that reveals her inner frame looks beautiful and is true to original game. Her transparent hair also brings out more of her charm along with her great style. The color of her suit looks smooth and there is a clear line which differentiates her body parts.

Price

1/4 figures are definitely more expensive than others, nonetheless, this KOS-MOS figure is most certainly worth the wait the money and will be a great addition for the fans of Xenosaga.



HOOKED BOOK

by ann

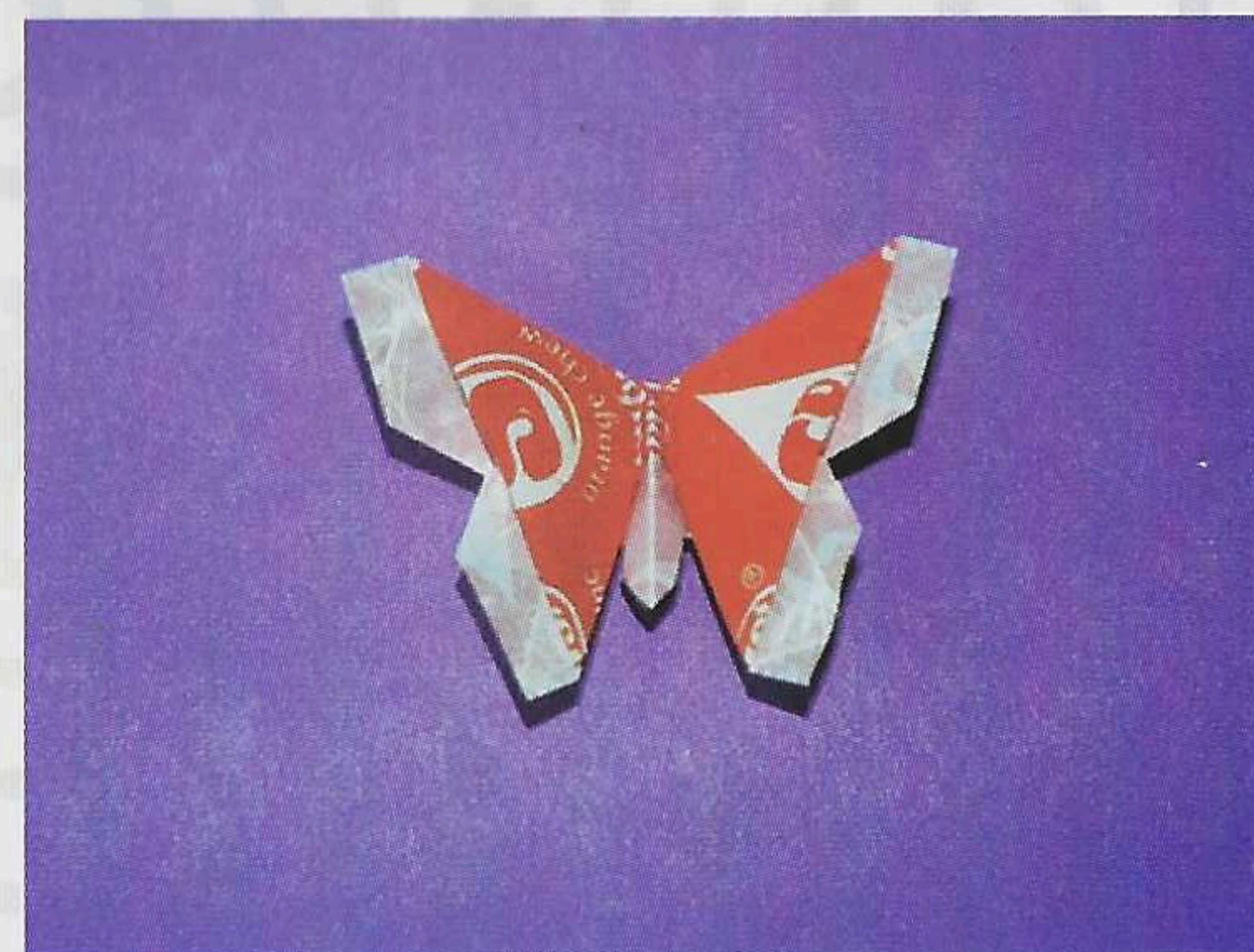
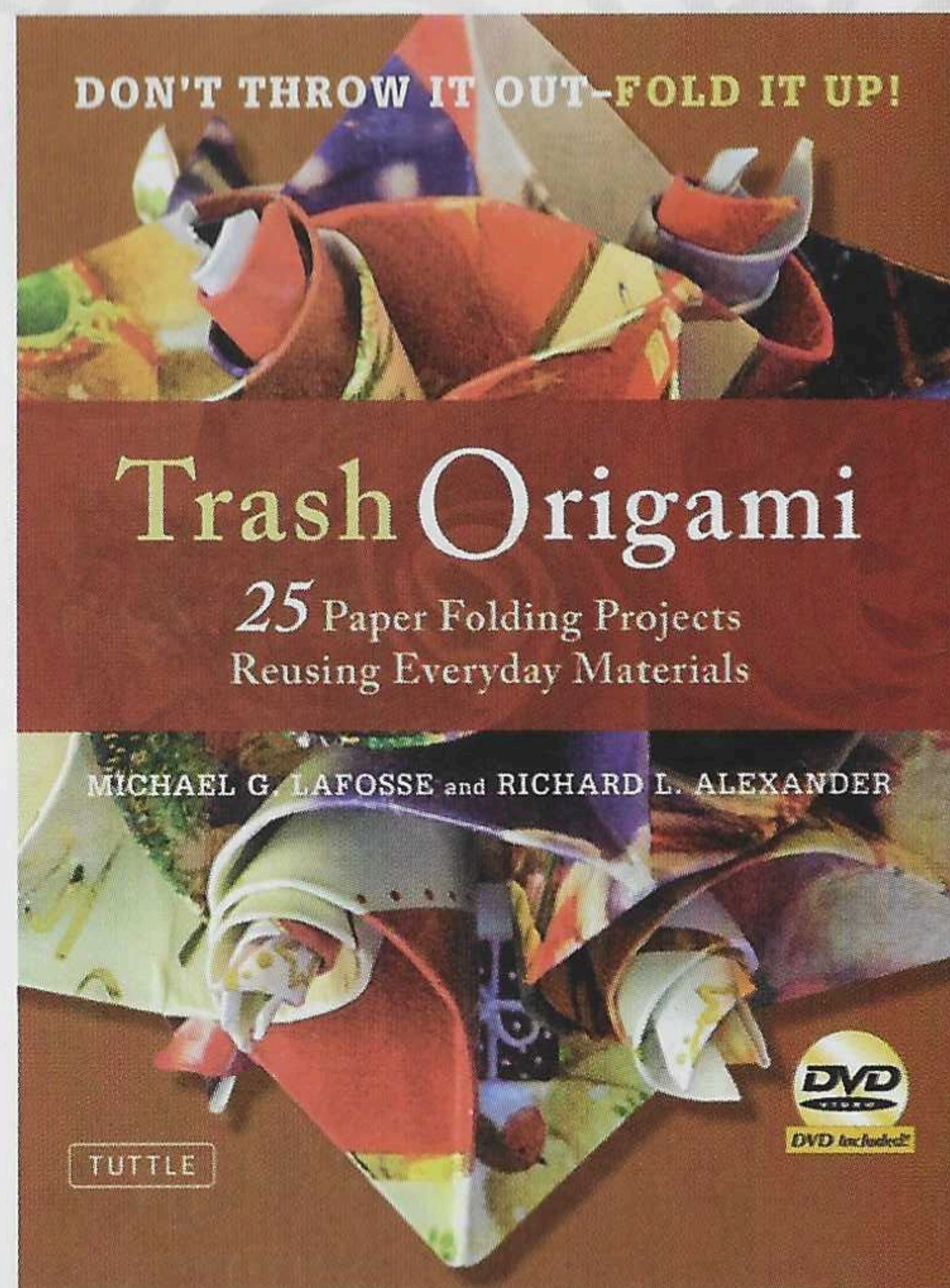
Reimagine your Recyclables

"There's treasure in trash" is one translation of the common Filipino saying "May pera sa basura," and truly, treasure would be the better term as there's not only money in investing your time and effort in it. Michael G. LaFosse and Richard L. Alexander, with the aid of Tuttle Publishing, prove this point in their instructional book called **Trash Origami 25 Exciting Paper Models You Can Make with Recycled Trash**.

Here, they list some raw materials that readers can use in their folding ventures. These include brochures, candy wrappers, magazines, grocery bags, and junk mail – technically, all the wastepaper you can find! Anybody can also easily follow the steps provided as they are clearly portrayed step-by-step. Plus, the book comes with DVD so that readers can watch video tutorials.

While origami is considered fine art, the projects the book suggests are not just for display. Most of them are either useful or fun to play with. Some examples you can make with trash are Ali's Folded Dish, Masu Boxes, and Dave Brill's Origami Masu, which can all function as containers. Meanwhile, Crowns & Towers Game, Scoopy Ball Game, and Modular Chess & Checkerboard Sets are some projects that are perfect for games for recreation or for parties.

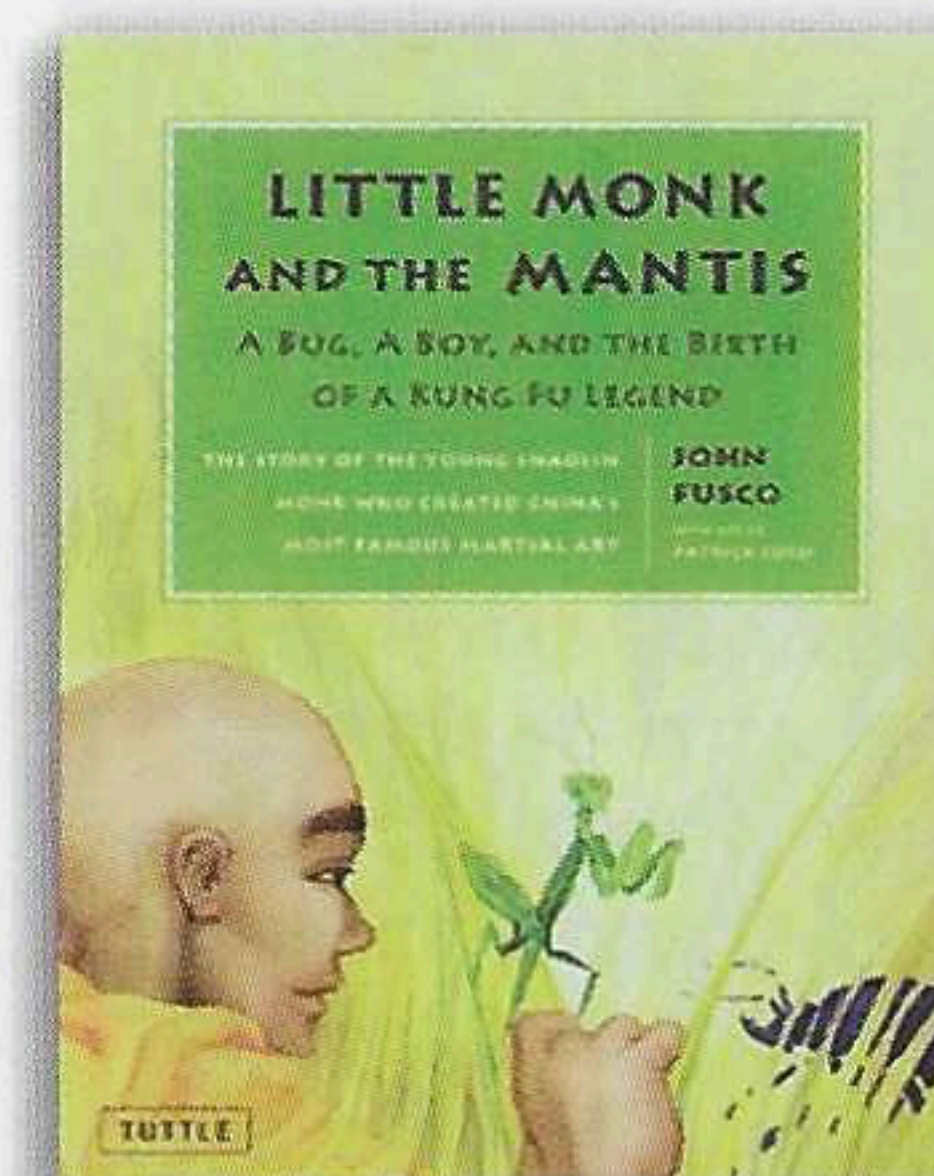
Now, the authors are real experts in their field! By experts we mean they are renowned origami artists, so we can trust their judgment to provide the best ideas for paper folding we can get. They are both co-founders of Origamido Studio, which seeks to celebrate the art of origami and spread the addicting habit to both beginners and masters. This book is just one way they can reach out to a lot more people. Additionally, it takes inspiration from some of the best paper designers, namely, Nick Robinson, Herman Van Goubergen, and Rona Gurkewitz.



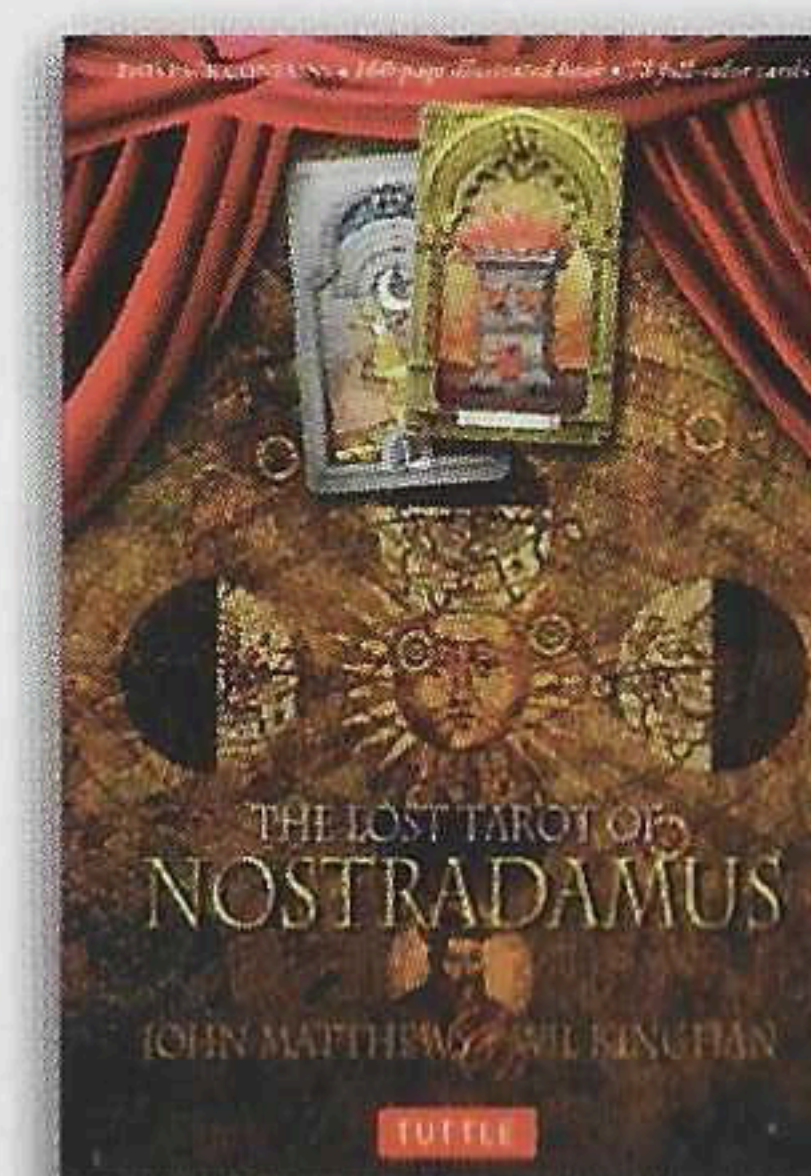
And so, take a look at your waste bin reconsider the papers or wrappers in it, and do just as the book says, "Don't throw it out – Fold it up!"

TUTTLE

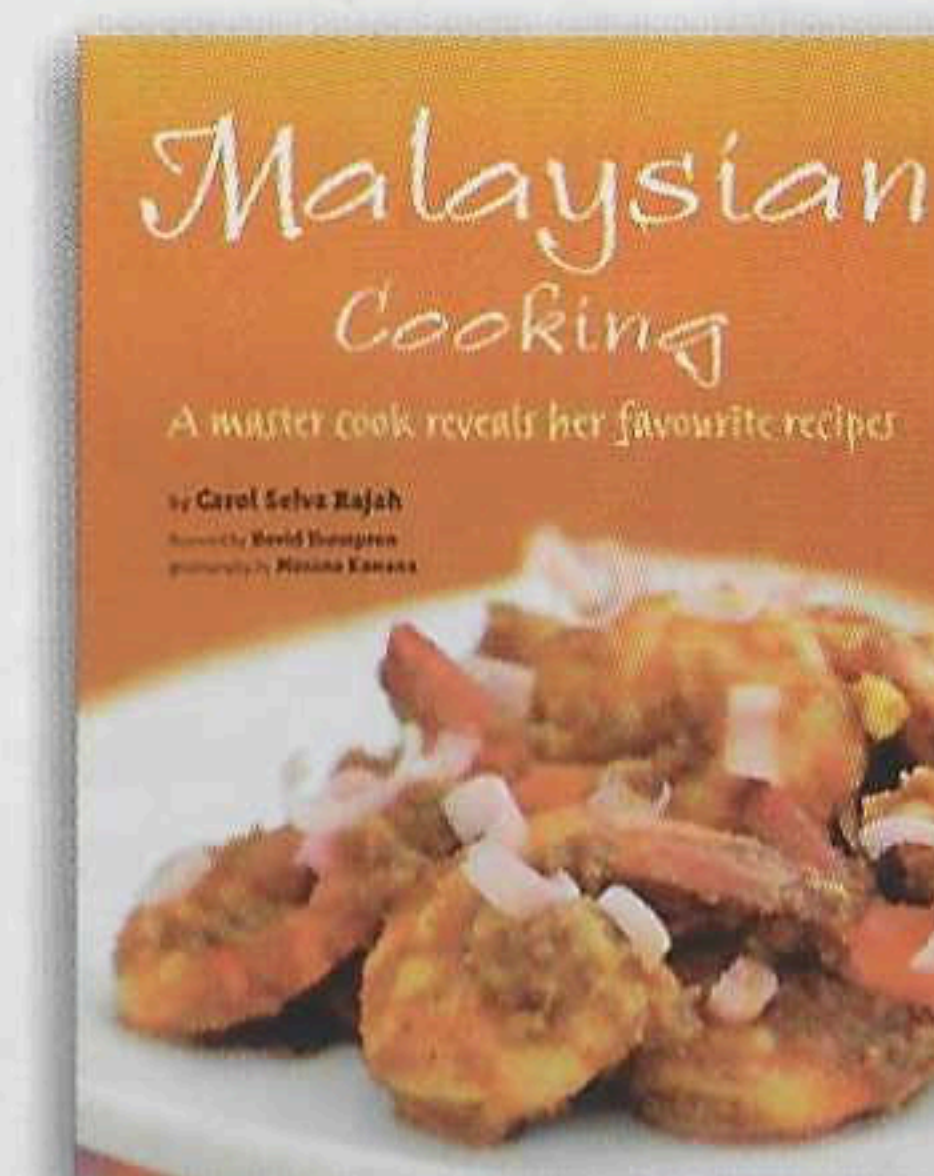
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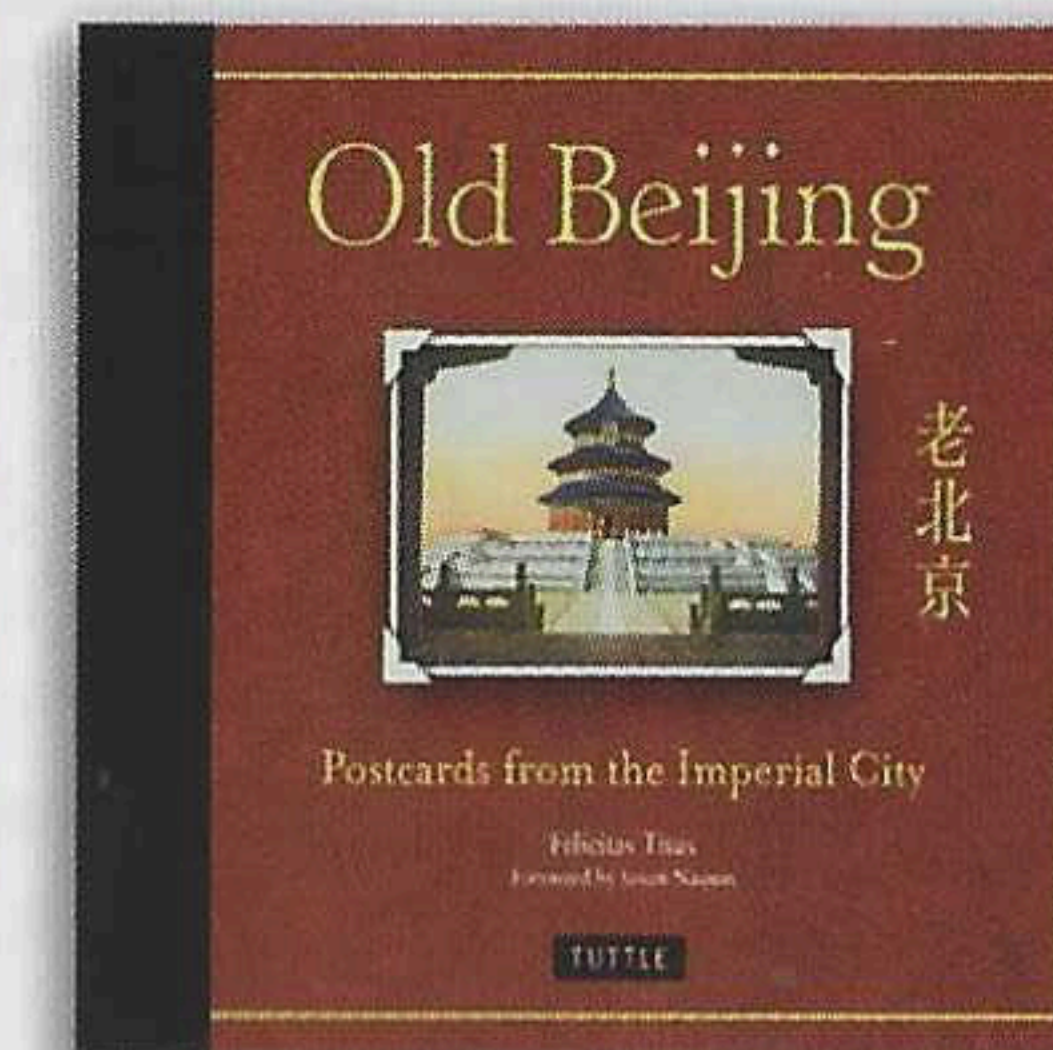
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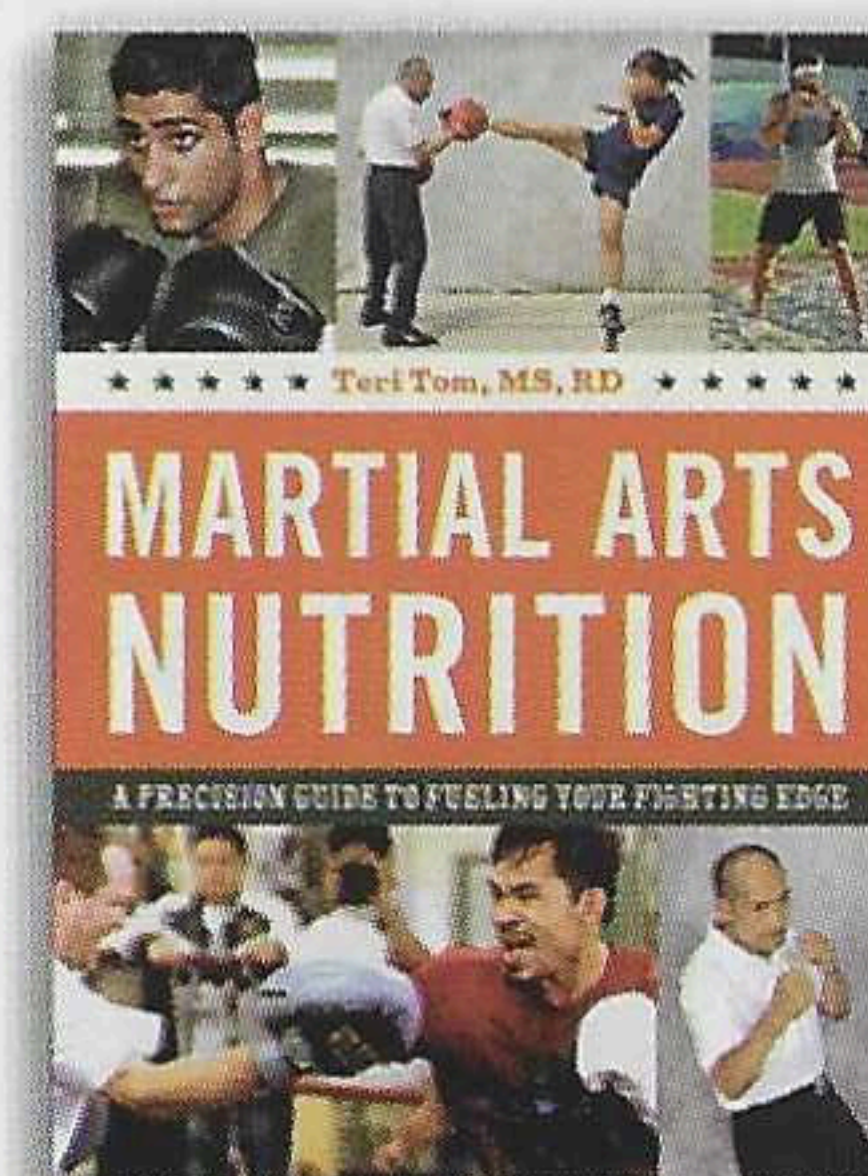
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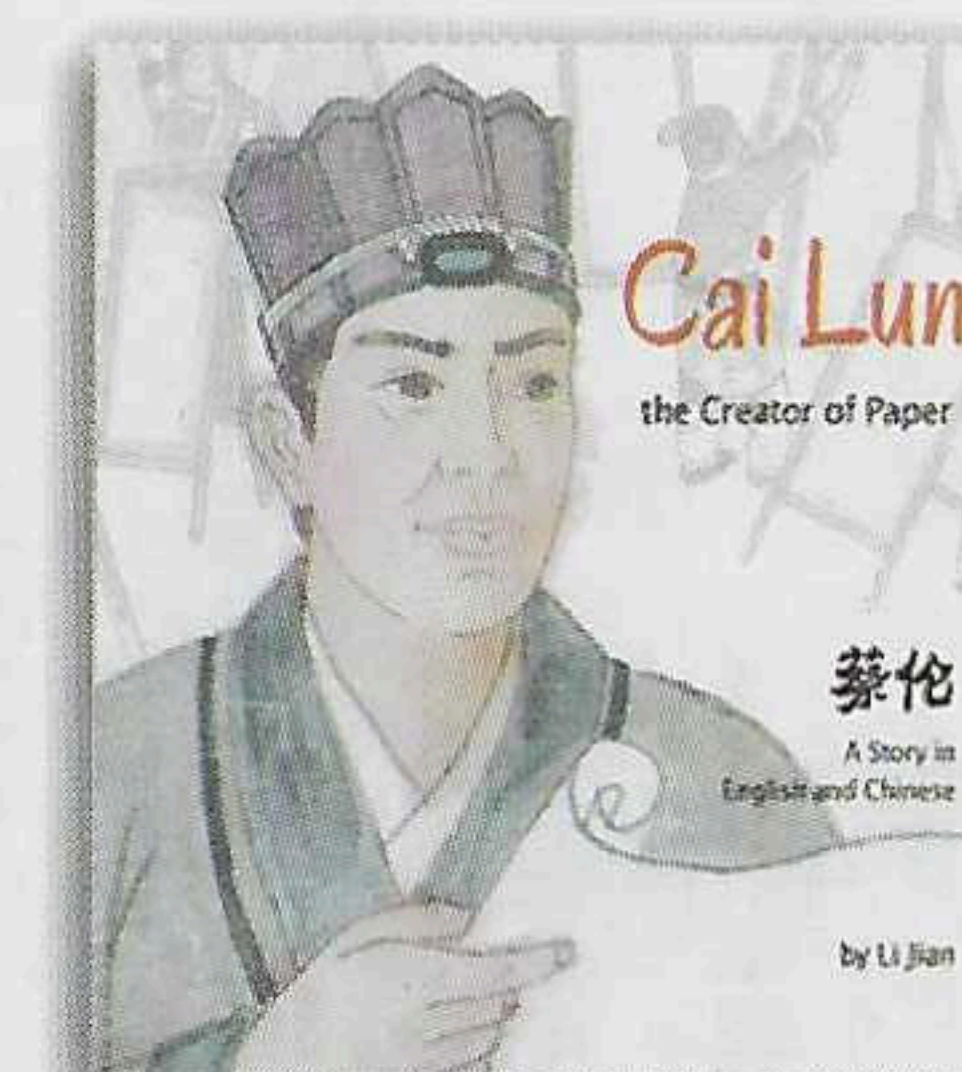
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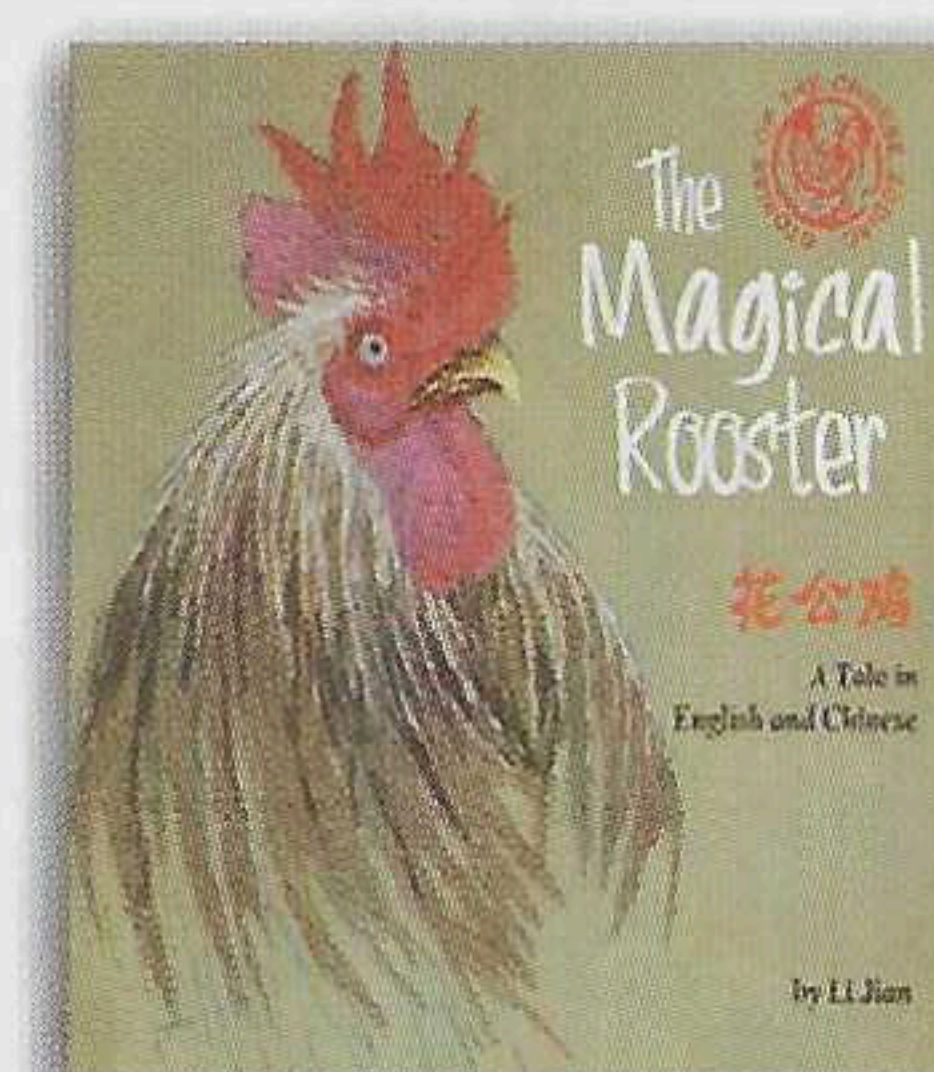
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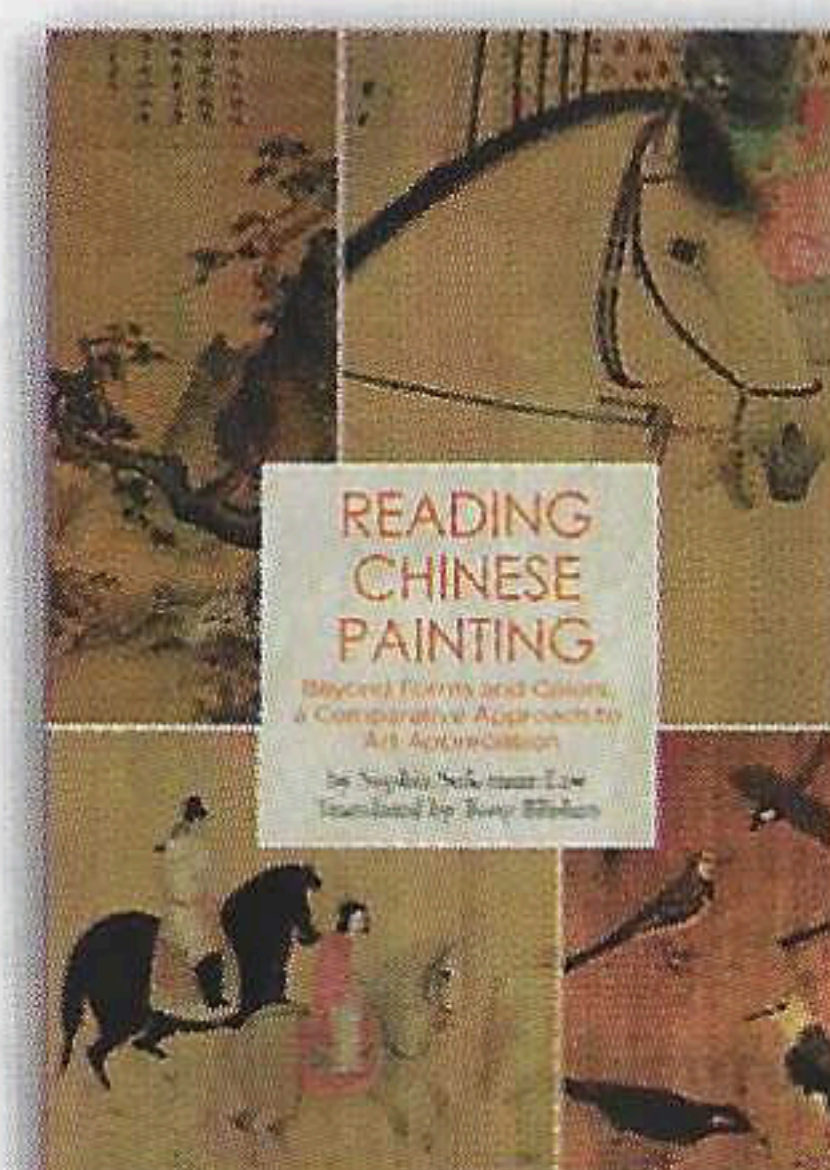
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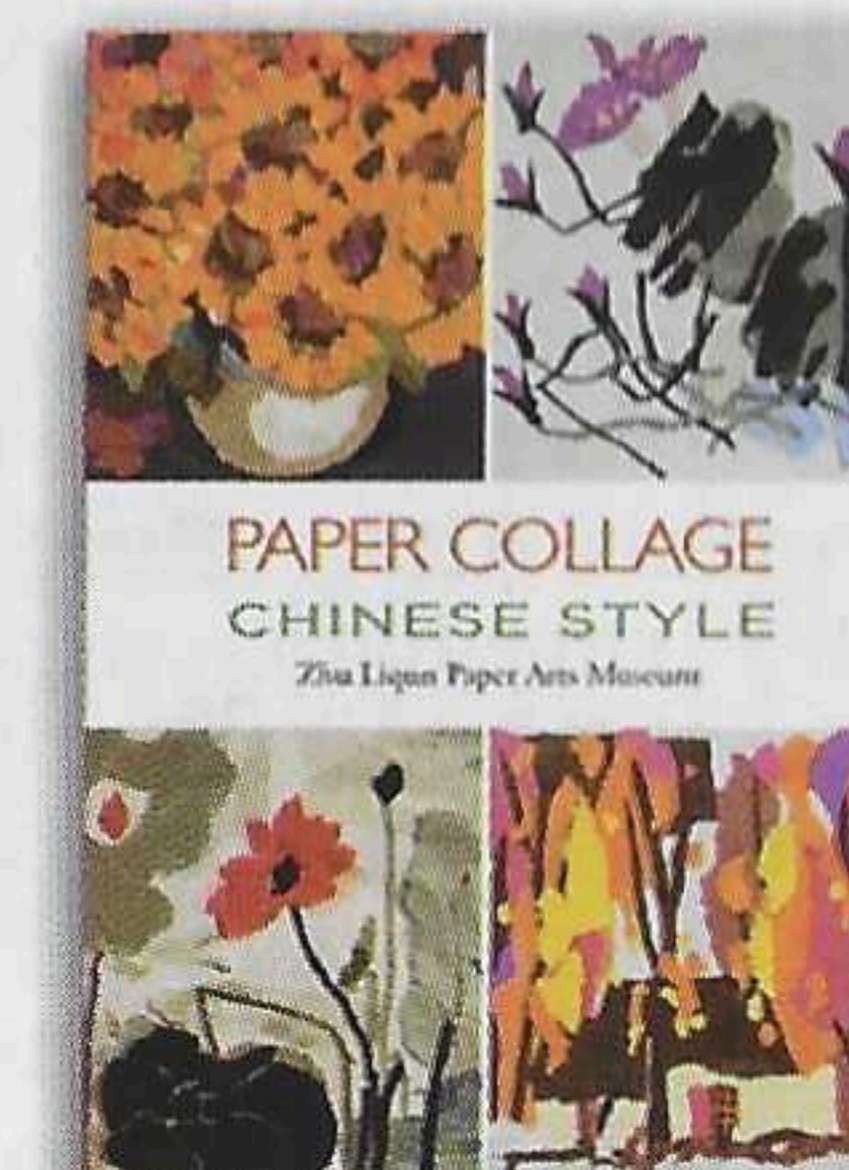
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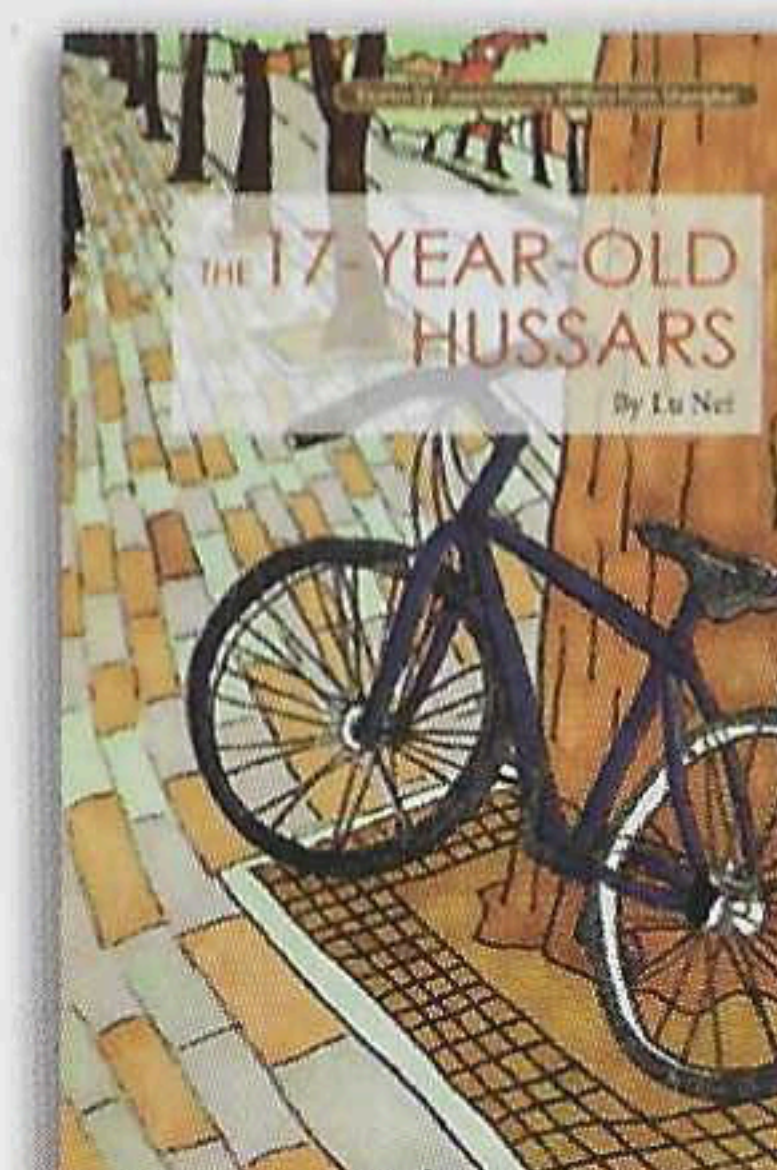
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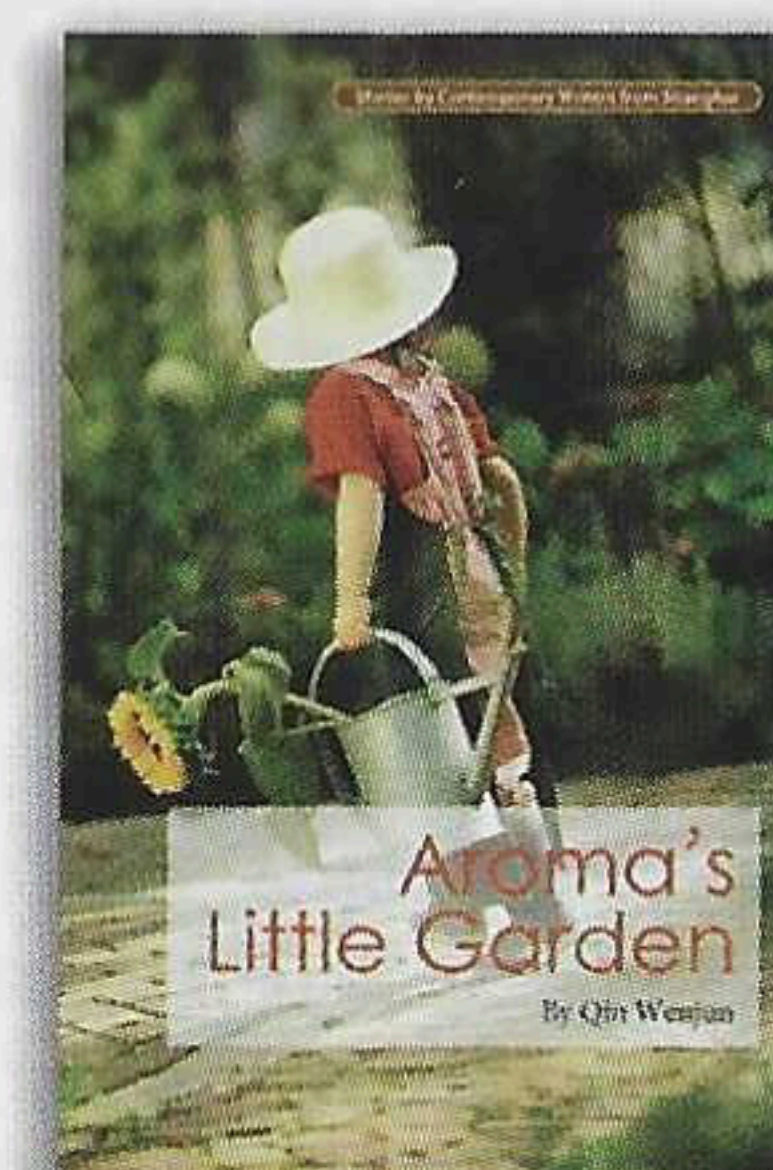
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The Comeback!

Buono! Music Returns

After four years of waiting, Buono! is here again to rock again our world with their new songs!

Buono! was formed in 2007 in order to sing songs for the anime TV series Shugo Chara! alongside with Guardians 4 and Shugo Chara! Egg. They were only the group that was not disbanded after the anime Shugo Chara! ended. Their first single "Honto no Jibun" was their best-selling single up to now.

There were no changes in their line-up since their formation and all of its members came from Hello! Project Kids. Originally, they have no leader and thus, the center girl in every single change. However, due to their popularity, Momoko Tsugunaka was appointed as the leader up to now.

They have released the most number of singles (14) among the special units of Hello! Project. After their single Hatsukoi Cider / DEEP MIND which was released in 2012, they haven't released a single up to now. They were still active from 2013-2015 but their appearance was only few.

Aside from their singing career, they also had their own movie "Gomennasai" (English Title: Ring of Curse) a horror story revolving around 3 girls namely Yuka Hidaka, Hinako Kurohane, Shiori Sonoda as their classmates who got killed one by one which is seemly connected to Yuka and her script for their school play for the literature month.

They also have their own radio shows from 2011-2015 and also they have appeared in commercials for Pizza-La, Pink Donut Waffles and Viva! Paella.

Ahh~ their music feels so nostalgic. I learned them from the anime Shugo Chara! and everytime I watch the anime, I won't skip the opening and ending songs because they were really good to hear. The dance steps for their songs also were also catchy and makes most of the viewers to memorize that also aside from the lyrics and some did a dance cover of it which was founded on Youtube.

It is indeed a good news that they are back now into making new songs since I cannot hear that much from them since the anime ended aside from they will perform in Hello! Project concerts from time to time. Another thing that I like from them is that they have live bands during their concerts which sound more good and awesome. For me, they sounded best during concerts and live; which is a trademark of all the idol groups from Hello! Project.



MEMBERS:



Momoko Tsugunaka

Nicknames: Momochi, Momo
 Birthday: March 6, 1992
 also a member of Country Girls

Miyabi Natsuyaki

Nicknames: Miya, Miyabi-chan
 Birthday: August 25, 1992
 also a member of PINK CRES.



Suzuki Airi

Nicknames: Airiin, Osuzu, Airi
 Birthday: April 12, 1994
 also a member of °C-ute

HONTO NO JIBUN

Ikiteru kagiri ishikoro darake demo
 ooki na koe de ganbare!
 Ganbare! (Ganbare!)
 Tomaru koto nai uchira no jinsee
 dakara owaranai uta wo utaou

Waga michi wo tsukisusume
 Detarame na kyara demo ii
 Rokudenashi demo aishiterun da Mai darin

Bakayaro! Honto no jibun
 Itai koto itte yare
 Hamidashite kun da yo
 Chikazuite kun da yo yume ni
 Konoyaro! Honto no jibun
 Dete koi yo kakuretenai de
 Oh yeah Ima sugu

Yowaki na ore ga iya na hi mo aru kedo
 sore de aitsu no kimochi ga wakarun da (Wakaru)
 Kakko tsukeru ore hiichau keredo
 dakara makezu ni mata ganbarerun da

Doshaburi mo hare mo aru
 Chiccha na koto ki ni sun na Dekkai ashita no tame ni kisu shite agetai

Bakayaro! Honto no jibun
 Yaritai koto yatte yare
 Tobidashite kun da yo
 Tobikoete kun da yo yume ni
 Konoyaro! Honto no jibun
 Daijoubu sa kowagaranai de
 Oh yeah Ima sugu

Nanni mo nai basho kara nani ka ga hajimaru
 Dakishimetai daro
 Kakedashitain daro yume he

Bakayaro! Honto no jibun
 Itai koto itte yare
 Hamidashite kun da yo
 Chikazuite kun da yo yume ni
 Konoyaro! Honto no jibun
 Dete koi yo kakuretenai de
 Oh yeah Ima sugu

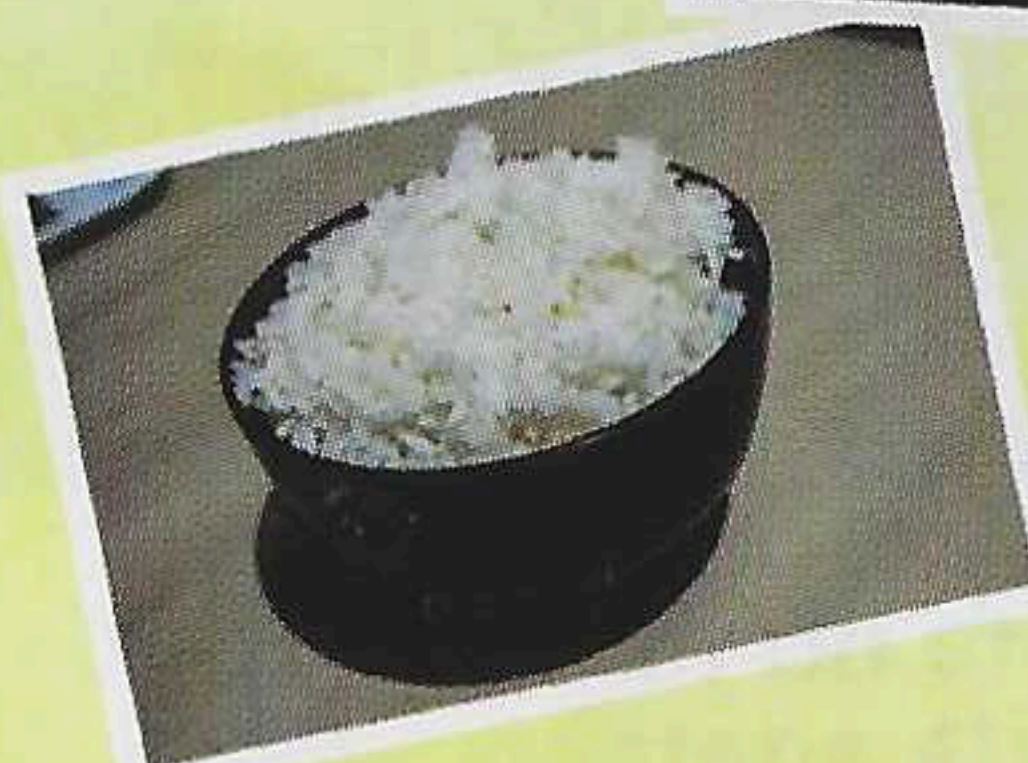


BENTO BOX

POKEBOX TUTORIAL

by Yani

Good day trainers! How's your journey catching Pokemon? Have you seen all the Pokemon registered in the pokedex? If not yet then you still have a long way to go. Of course it also includes battling at gyms and hatching eggs. Aside from having problems of our devices getting drained, we ourselves get drained after a long walk. There is a simple riceball recipe that we're sure every trainer will enjoy and like; not only because of its appearance but also because it's easy to eat and plus, it's heavy in the tummy.



THINGS NEEDED:

- Cooked Japanese Rice
- Nori
- Crab Sticks
- Cling Wrap
- Knife

PROCEDURE:

1. On the chopping board, separate the white part and the red part of the crab stick. Make sure that the red part is thin so that it will stick in the rice later.

After that, cut the white part into cubes then set them aside.



2. Get the rice, then form it into riceballs using the cling wrap but before that, put a few diced white part of the crab sticks inside. Make sure when you wrap it it's tight. Leave it for 10 minutes.

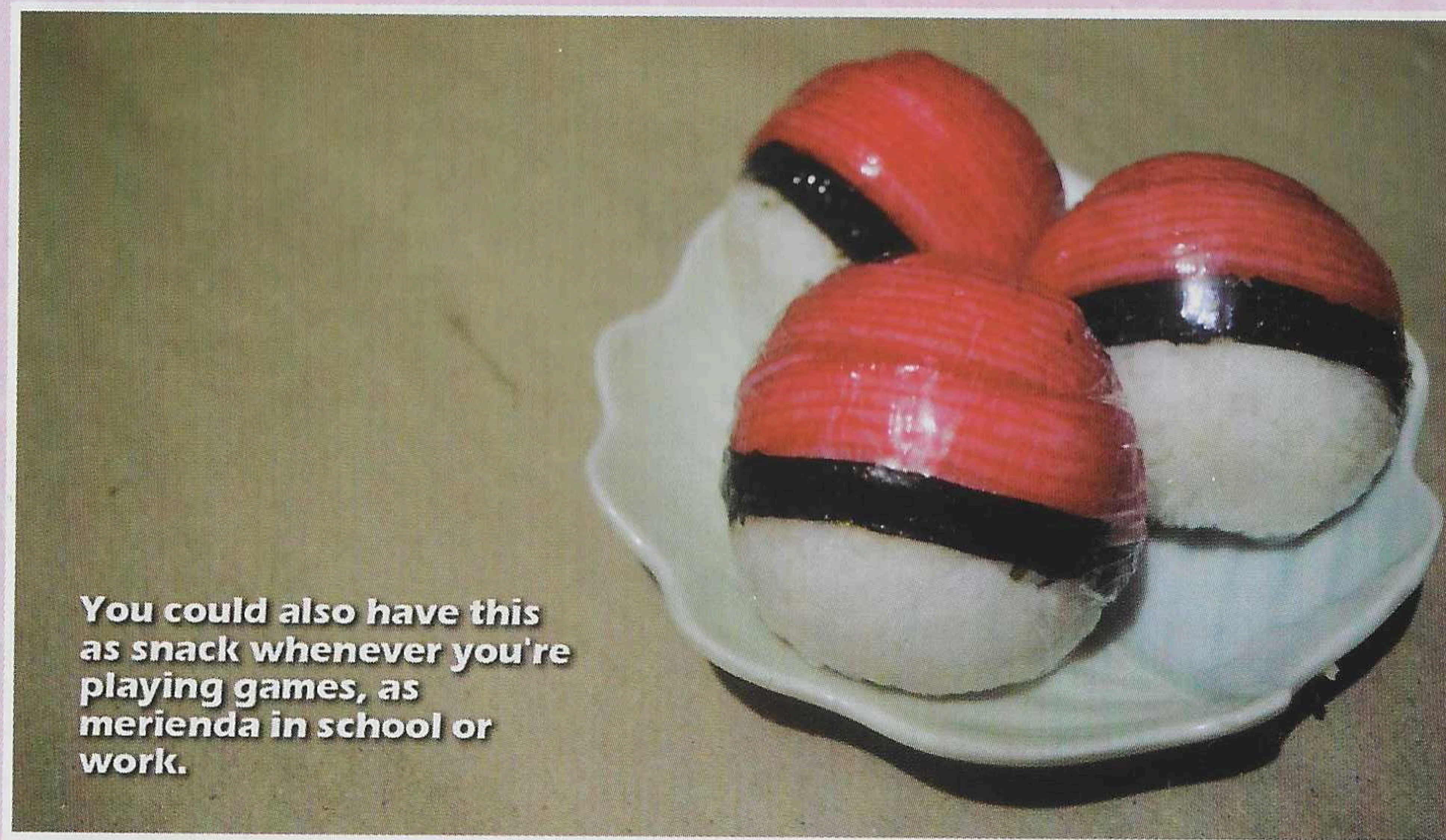


3. Get the nori and cut it into strips then set it aside.

Get also the riceballs and then remove the cling wrap from it. After that, get the red part of the crab sticks and the nori strip then place it on the rice ball similar to the image on the left. Then get a new cling wrap and wrap it once more into a ball.



Remember to place it in a tupperware so that it won't get squished in your bag. Don't also forget to bring drinks on your Pokemon adventure!

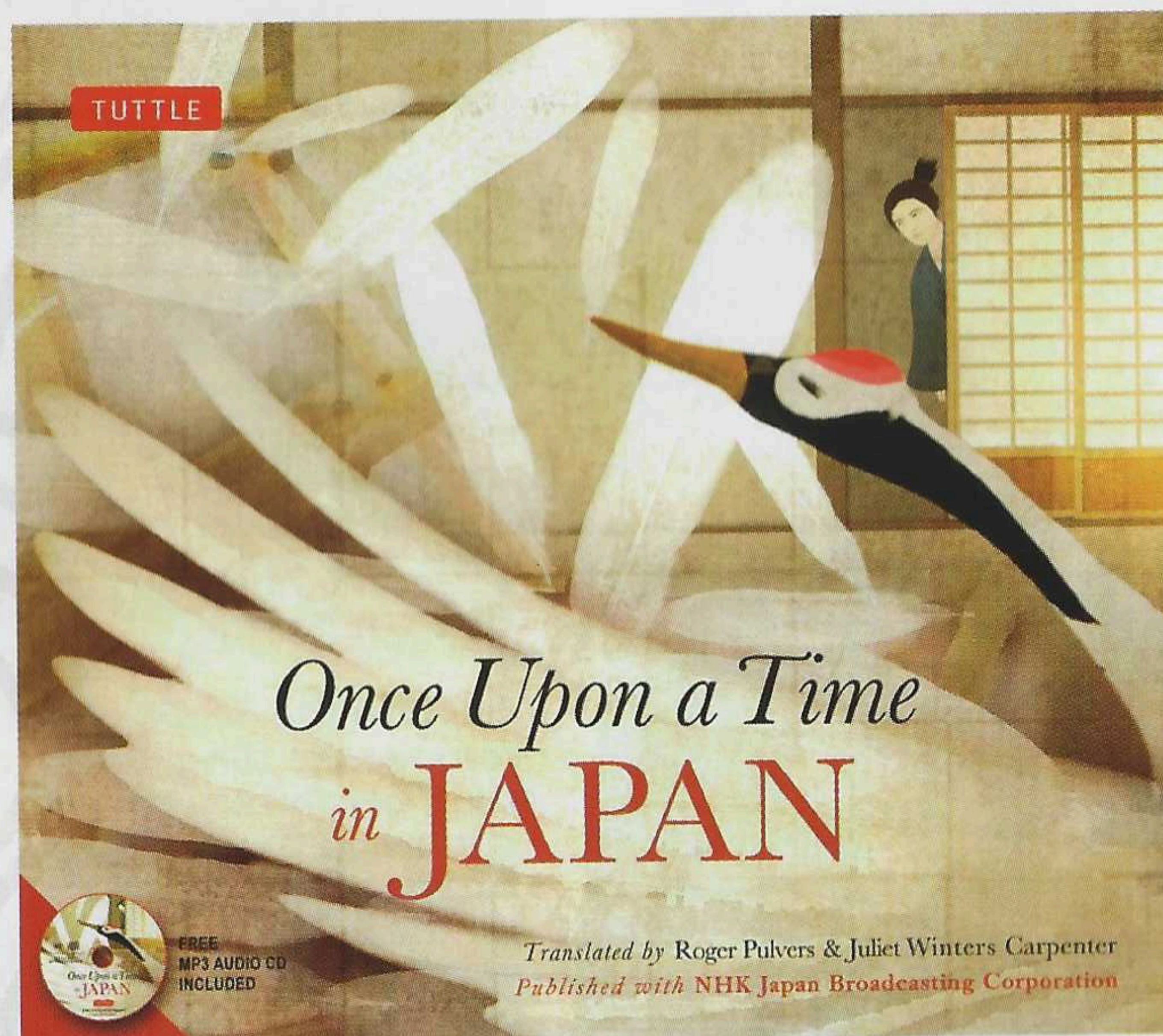


You could also have this as snack whenever you're playing games, as merienda in school or work.



HOOKED BOOK

by Ann



"Once upon a time" does not end in the fairy tales of the West, as Japan boasts its own version with the book "Once Upon a Time in Japan," a collection of Japanese fairytales and folklores. As classics, these stories relive both the imagination and wisdom of readers, bridging the world to lessons as old as time told from one generation to another.

Deriving inspiration from their surroundings, these stories involve people, animals, and other magical creatures set to represent people and their experiences. These stories include "Sleepyhead Taro and the Children," "The Magical Hood," "The Monkey and the Crab," "The Fox and the Otter," and "The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter." Lessons learned can range from the evil of stinginess, greed, and deceit to the rewards of kindness, fairness, and honesty. Because of these fantastic tales, the book bagged the 2015 Gelette Burgess Award for Best Multicultural Book and the 2016 Creative Child Magazine Book of the Year Award.

Aside from stories that can be read or listened to through the accompanying MP3 Audio CD, the book has unique illustrations from various Japanese artists, namely, Manami Yamada (author of Grandma Nosehair and Kaeru to Okan), Tomonori Taniguchi (author of Sarukun to Banana no Yuenchi and Pinocchio, la marionnette de fer), Nao Takabatake (author of Kaeru no Odekake, Chiita Dai Seru, and Banana Jiken), and Takumi Nishio (animator and illustrator of TV programs). Surely, the works of art can grab the attention of both kids and kids at heart. "Once Upon a Time in Japan" is mainly a collaboration of Tuttle Publishing and NHK Japan Broadcasting Corporation, sourcing the children stories from NHK World's Radio Japan. Roger Pulvers and Juliet Winters Carpenter translated the stories from Japanese to English.

See the world of wonder and reawaken your childhood through "Once Upon a Time in Japan."

where
props
look like
real
weapons



Contact Person: Miko Garcia Twitter: /TheSw0rdMaster
Facebook: /TheSwordMasters Contact # 0935 665 6760



Noriaki Sugiyama

Date of birth: March 9, 1974
 Birth Place: Tokyo, Japan
 Likes: Cats, Dogs, Japanese
 green tea
 Website: nekojika.com



Uchiha Sasuke

by Kanddy

England Arthur Kirkland



The seiyuu called "Nontan". Sugiyama Noriaki was given this nickname by Takeuchi Junko during a Oh! Naruto Nippon. He says he is not cute enough to earn this nickname but he gradually warmed up to it.

His cute sides include attracting cats during his walks, avoiding the microphone so much so that fellow seiyuu actors often had to tell him to 'please step closer to the mic' and touching his nose when he gets embarrassed.

He is also known to be 'The most Serious Seiyuu' (majime- serious, honest, diligent) and best known for his role as Sasuke Uchiha from Naruto and Naruto Shippuden.



Shiro Emiya

Uryu Ishida



2014

Fate/kaleid liner Prisma Illya 2wei! (Shiro Emiya)
 Fate/stay night Unlimited Blade Works (Shiro Emiya)
 Kamigami no Asobi (Thor Megingjard)
 Francesca: Girls be ambitious (Ishikawa Takuboku)

2015

Hetalia: The World Twinkle (England)
 Blood Blockade Battlefront (DJ Fango)
 Fate/stay night: Unlimited Blade Works 2nd Season (Shiro Emiya)
 Fate/kaleid liner Prisma Illya 2wei! Herz! (Shiro Emiya)

2016

Norn9 (Shukuri Akito)
 Fate/kaleid liner Prisma Illya 3rei! (Shiro Emiya)
 D.Gray-man Hallow (Arystar Krory III)
 ReLIFE (Akira Inukai)

Anime films

"Beyblade The Movie: Fierce Battle" (2002) (Blader DJ)
 Axis Powers - Paint it, White! (2010) (England)
 The Last: Naruto the Movie (2014) (Sasuke Uchiha)
 Boruto: Naruto the Movie (2015) (Sasuke Uchiha)



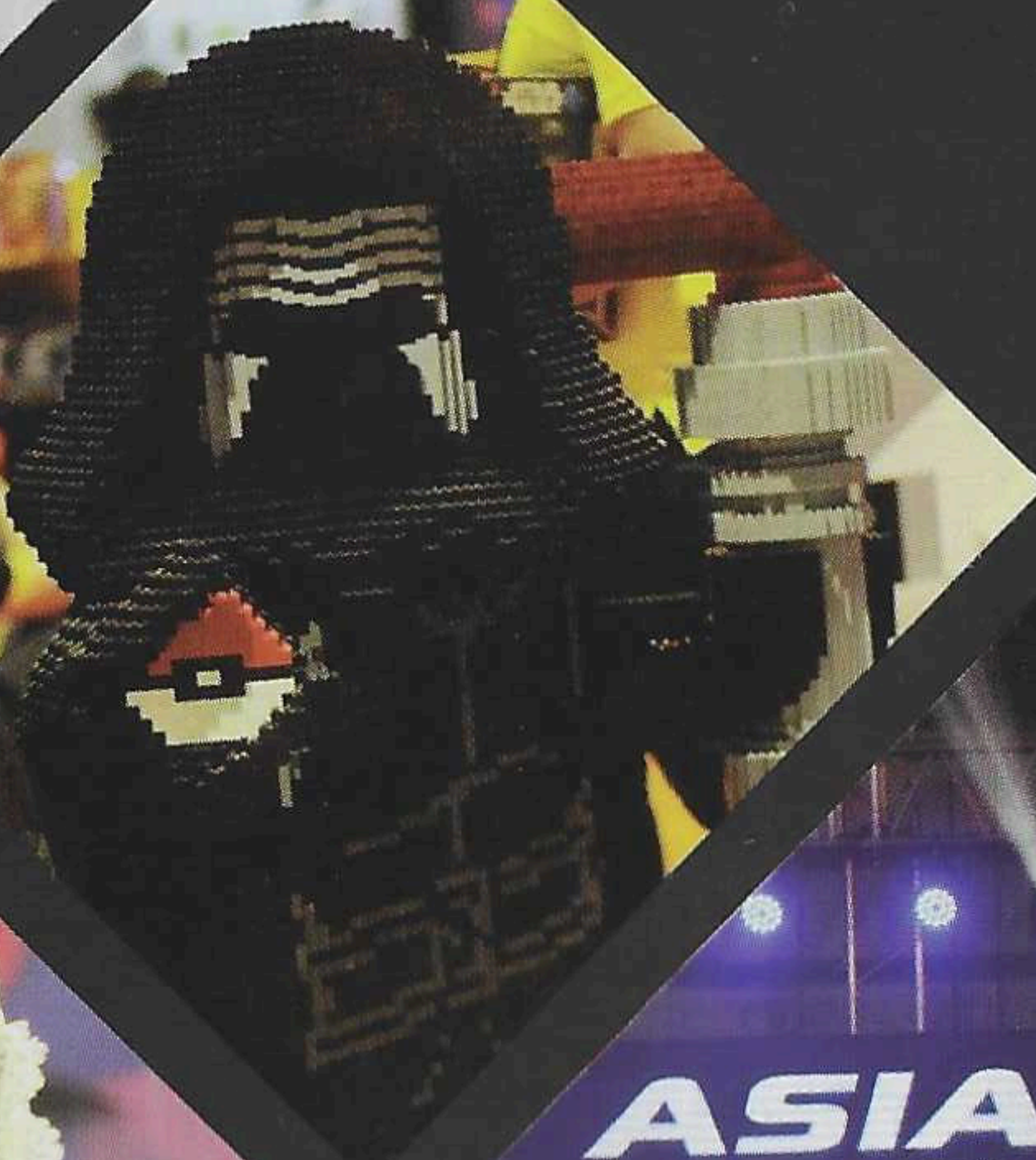
CON-IN-FOCUS

Thanks to the success of AsiaPop Comicon last year, they held it again this year and this time it happened at SMX Convention Center Manila. Function Rooms 1-5 and Function Halls 1-4 last August 26-28. The whole SMX for one awesome event!!! How cool is that?



ASIAPOP COMICON

They have also announced that there will be AsiaPop ComiCon again next year.



ASIA
POP

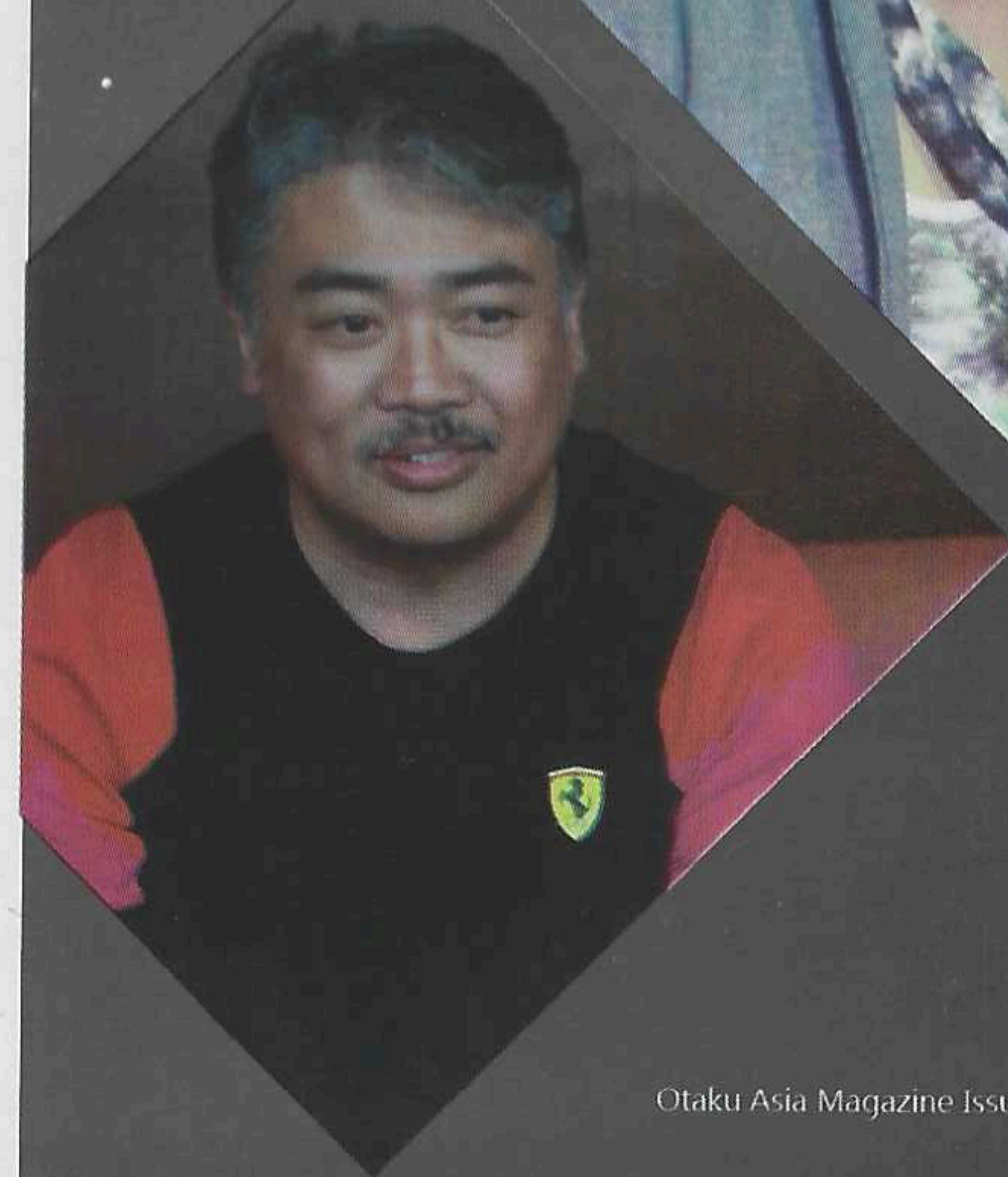
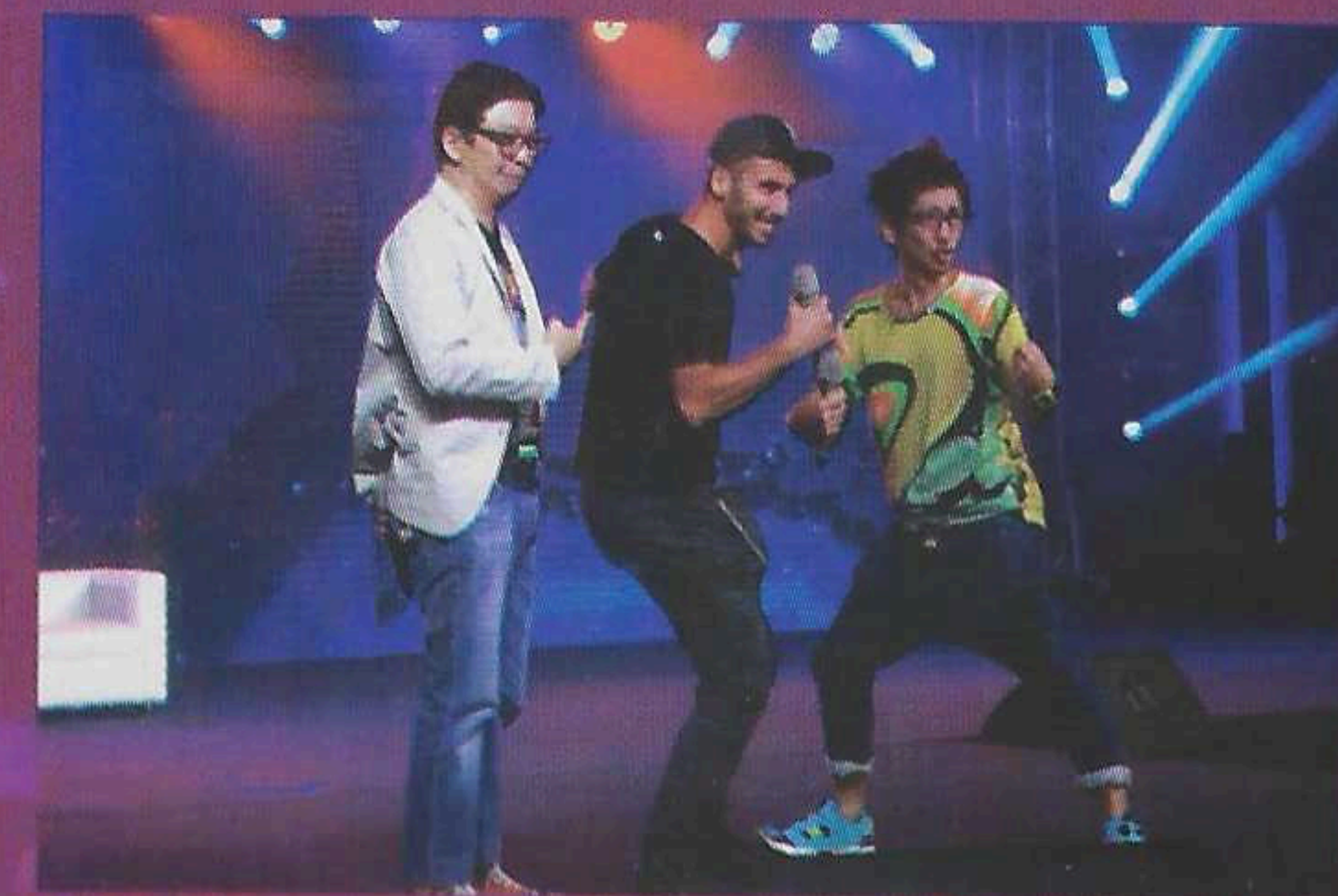
Halls 1-4 is where booths and exhibits can be found. There is a center stage in the form of a wrestling ring. Function Room 1 was used for ticket selling, Function Room 2 is where the seminars were held like make-up tutorials and comic tutorial. The entire Function Room 4 was used for the main stage and Function Room 5 is where rice meals, coffee, drinks were available.

They sold tickets through SM Tickets and in day-bundles (one-day ticket to a three-day ticket). AsiaPOP Comicon Manila 2016 also offered to the FIRST 100 customers a special Geek Bundle, with an event lanyard, tote bag, cape, a 3-day pass, and a high-end 1/12 Iron Man Mark XL "Shotgun" armor from Comicave Studios. APCC merchandise were also available during the event such as t-shirt, canvas bag, lanyard, etc. Aside from the exhibits there were also plenty booths where one can buy merchandise. T-shirts, comics, figures, toys and even Devil Robots and tokidoki merchandise were also available.

There were also comic artists present and one of them is Whilce Portacio who is a Filipino. He was the creator of Bishop (of Uncanny X-men) and during his interview, he had an inspiring advise for us Filipinos; that we should look up on what's here in the Philippines and not always abroad. There are great things and talents that we haven't discovered here yet. Billy Tan, Jason Palmer, Ken Lashley and Mike Zech were also at the event as guests.

Known celebrities like Claire Holt, Joe Dempsie, Milly Bobby Brown, Nicholas Hoult were also there plus internet celebrities like Say Tioco and Vern and Verniece Enciso. Hiroshi Kitadani was also there and he had a mini concert in the afternoon for day 2 and day 3.

The CAGE (Cosplay Authority Global Challenge) returns this year and it happened for 2 days. This year's CAGE was judged by Alodia Gosengfiao, Ani Mia, Lindze Merrit, Myrtle Sarrosa, Riddle, Yugana Senshi Von. As expected, the contestants of the competition aimed for gold with their costumes and stage performances





You would not only enjoy the event but also helped because the partial proceeds of the APCC activities will go to Make A Wish Foundation. Their mission is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich their human experience. With the big turnout if the event again this year, I'm sure that many kids will get the help they need.

Being a new event did not hinder APCC to bring in the big guns. From last year, they have only gotten better. There were more than 30,000 attendees who went this year. Can't get enough of the event? Good thing we will get to enjoy pop culture again next year! See you at AsiaPop Comicon 2017.



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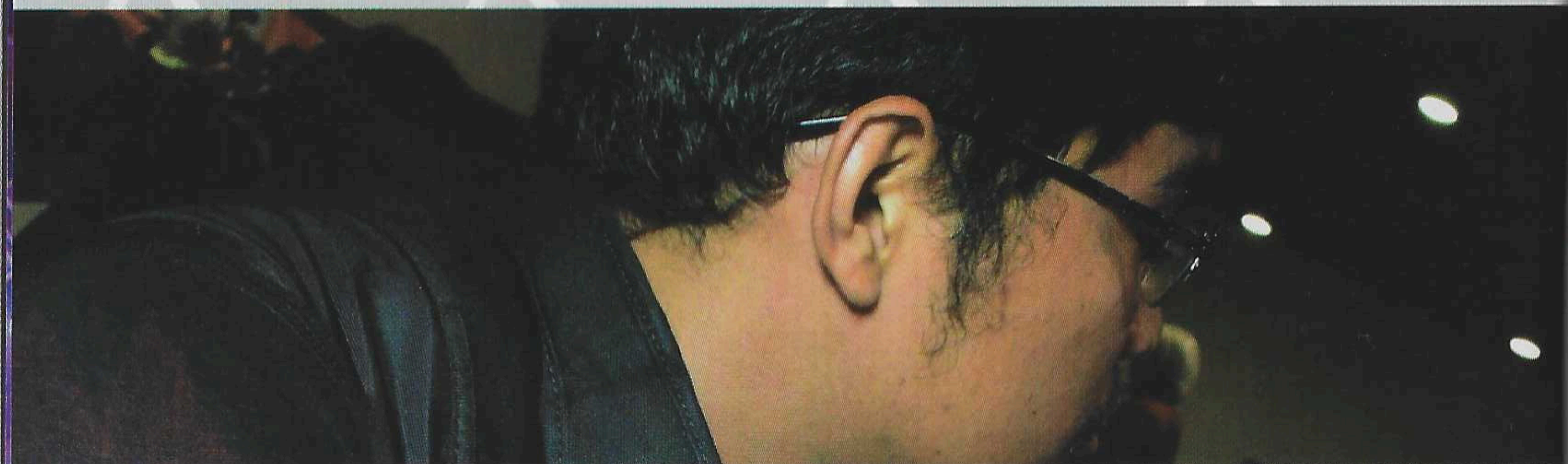


LOKAL'TAKU

by Kanddy

Otaku local news was once hard to come by. There were various blogspot, wordpress, and live journal sites where selfless individuals would update the community of events, cosplayers and anime updates. One stood out and has lasted this long, animePHproject in wordpress. Now he has his β beta website, animephproject.com.

The writers are close friends of Otaku Asia and has been along us since we started. As our senpai in event coverages, they have taught us many things about being in the frontlines. We consider them as very good allies in bringing otaku news out to the Filipino fans.



Taken from their website about page:
animePH project started as a Facebook page on March 2011 that primarily aimed to provide the latest information about upcoming and new anime series from Japan. Moreover, it also provides news and relevant knowledge about upcoming Japanese pop culture events, anime and cosplay conventions or any information about Japanese culture-inspired events in the country to keep the people who share the same interests (and those who don't) updated.

At first, it was all just to share news and updates about the anime world. Now, its goal is not only to provide information to those who are interested in anime and Japanese culture, but also to connect people together by giving them the opportunity to take part in events that will give them a chance to make new friends and company, feel a change of pace and atmosphere, and experience something that they don't get to see on their usual ordinary days.

About The Author

This site is owned by rayan, a former Iskolar ng Bayan, an IT-support of a known Telecommunications Company, a photographer, and an anime enthusiast that has the passion

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kaikirit: jillian@animephproject.com
Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/animeph>
Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/animephproject>



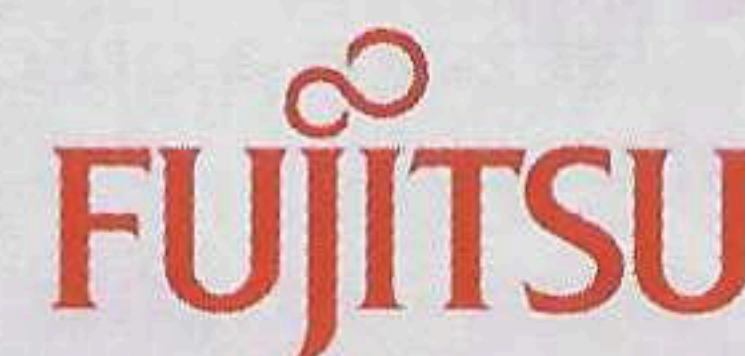
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OTAKU LIFE HACKS

by Reikisha

You'll know that a mobile game is extremely popular if a game such as Pokemon GO took the Philippines by storm. Since its release a few weeks ago, trainers nationwide are now taking out their smartphones to catch some rare Pokemon, drop by various Pokestops to get free stuff, and conquer gyms that can be found anywhere in the country. However, real life Pokemon trainers are more vulnerable to accidents and fell prey to Team Rocket's antics if they're not careful while getting immersed to the game.

That is why you, dear Otafan, should read this survival guide to become the best that no one ever was! (without losing your smartphone to Team Rocket)

POKEMON GO SURVIVAL GUIDE

1. Remain aware of your surroundings

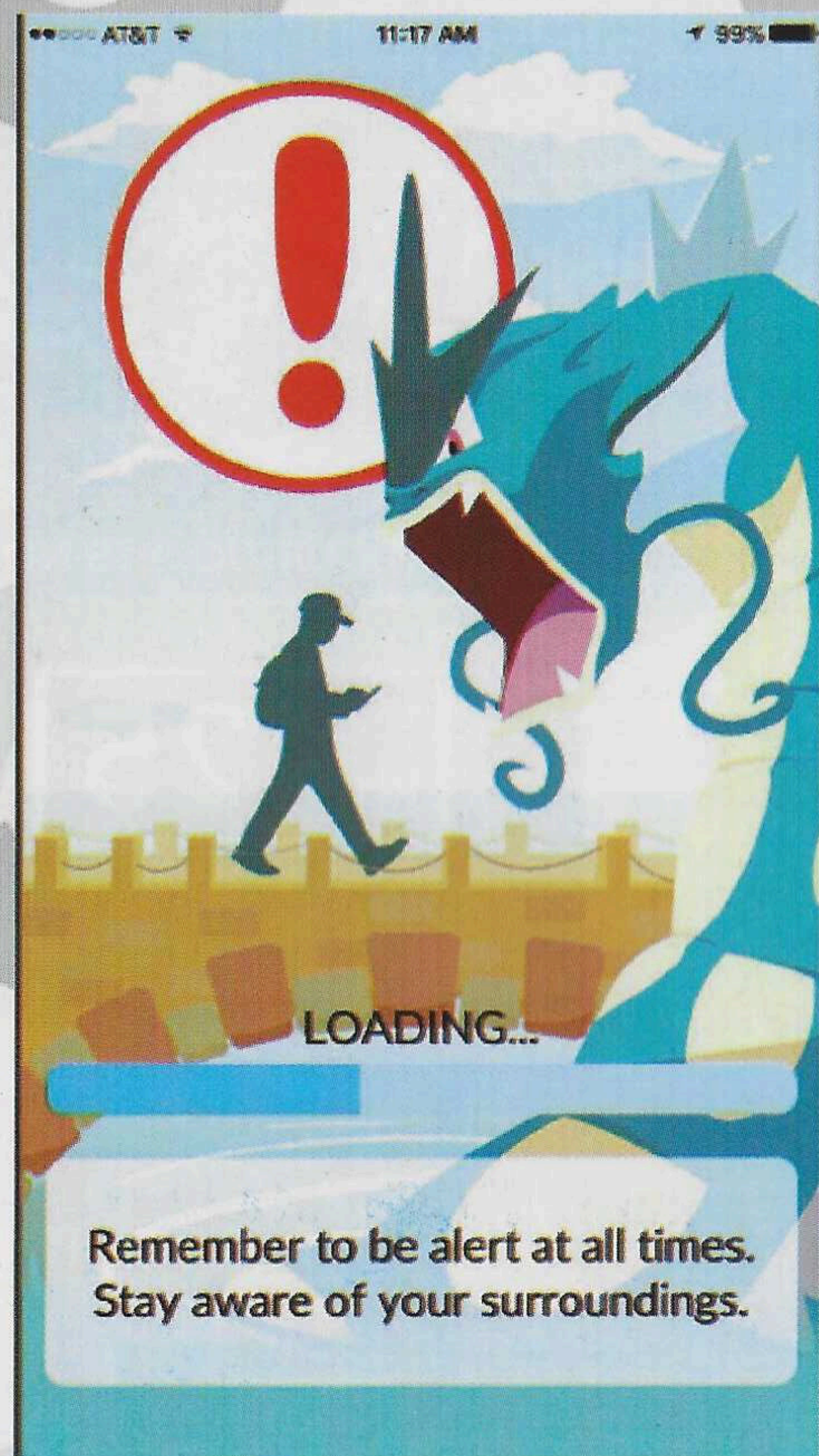
- While you're on the lookout for sightings of rare Pokemon, you tend to forget that you're currently in the streets and might bump into a wall or you're about to get run over by a speeding car. If you're really that determined to catch that rare Pokemon, at least take a quick glance of what's in-front of you.

2. Do not trespass

- Even if there's a Pikachu in your neighbor's house, trespassing is still a no-no. Ask permission from the occupants of the area if you can stick around and catch the Pokemon of your dreams. Don't hold it against them if they refused because there are many opportunities to catch a Pokemon that isn't a Rattata, a Pidgey, or a Zubat if you search hard enough.

3. Bring a powerbank with you

- Pokemon GO consumes a huge chunk of your battery life even if it's already set on battery saver mode. To prevent your smartphone dying on you while you're on the go for Pokemon catching, always bring a fully-charged powerbank with you. Just make sure that the powerbank is the type that can fit in your pocket or can be strapped on your waist.



4. Stay within the lure zone

- Whenever you see a lure module on a Pokestop, take the chance to catch as many Pokemon as you can while it lasts. In the Philippines, various malls are using lure modules to gain the attention of the mallgoers who are also Pokemon trainers. If you have a lure module of your own, use it on a Pokestop in your area and wait for a Pokemon to spawn within the zone.

5. Pokestops! Pokestops everywhere!

- Even though Pokemon GO is absolutely free, microtransaction still exists in this game. If you don't want to spend real cash just to replenish your stock of pokeballs, drop by to the nearest Pokestop, swipe your phone screen, and claim the free items. The more Pokestops you go to collect free items, the better! It's also a good workout for those who rarely gets a chance to go for a walk.

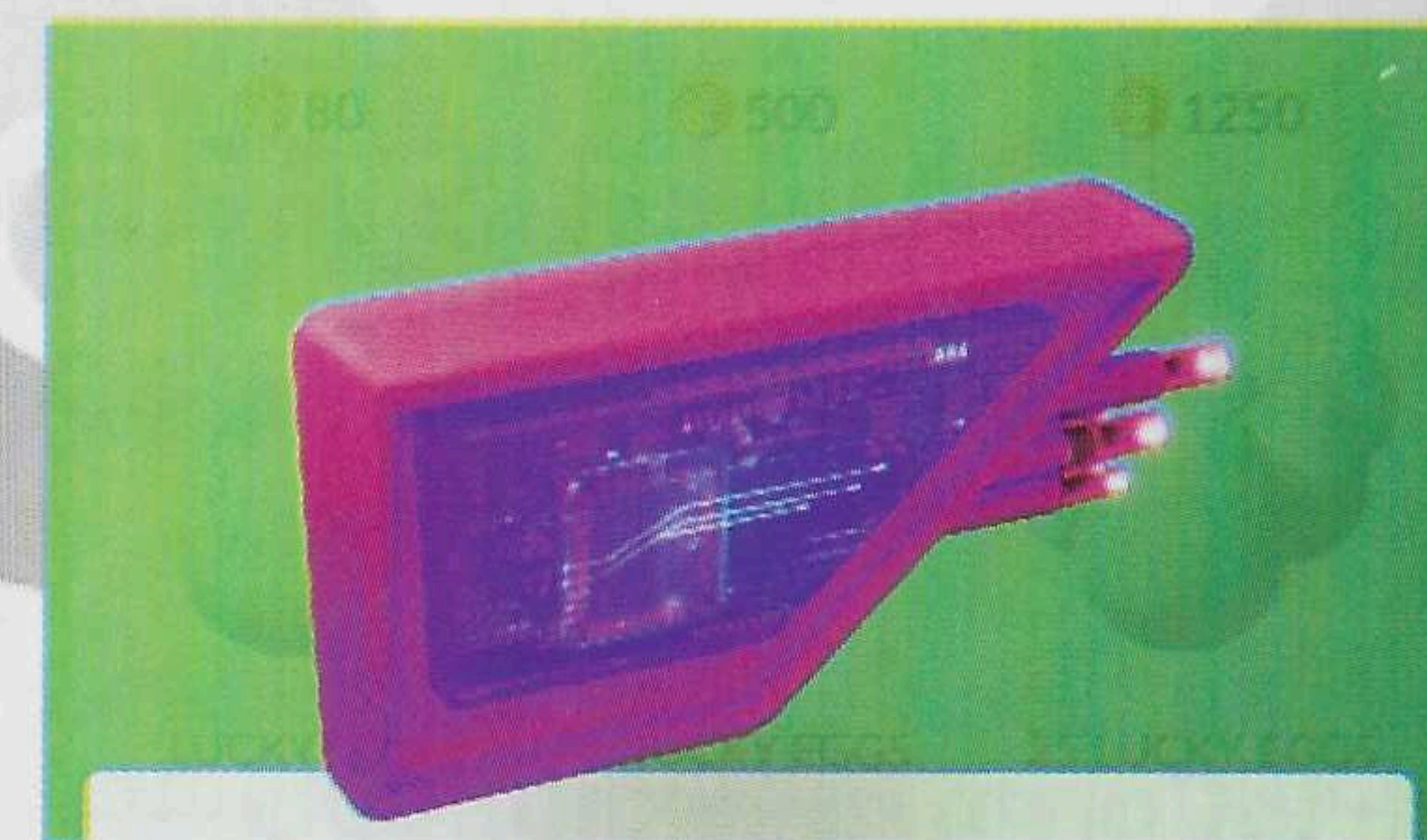
6. Candiiiiieeeeeesss!~

- Have you been catching so many Rattatas and Pidgeys to the point that you can only groan when you see one? Don't fret! Because having multiple Pokemon of the same kind can be converted into candy by sending them to the Professor. Candies can be used to power up or evolve a Pokemon of your choice, but you can only use candies that are for that certain Pokemon.

7. Teams and Gym Battles

- Once that you have reached level 5 in Pokemon GO, you can choose one out of three existing teams in the game: Valor, Mystic, and Instinct. As of now, there are no visible benefits for choosing one team over the other aside from training your Pokemon lineup on a gym managed by a member of your team.

Even though Pokemon GO is just a few weeks old, more and more people are joining in the craze to become the best Pokemon trainer in the country. But that will be meaningless if you suffered an injury or a Team Rocket member stole your phone, so please be careful when roaming the streets with your smartphone, dear Otafan!





Title: Touch Me! Gudetama
Platform: Android, iOS

*Requires internet connection

さわって!
ぐでたま



Experience the Gude-ness of Gudetama!~

by Yani

Are you a fan of Gudetama? Some of you might be wondering who is Gudetama. Gudetama is a Sanrio character who is literally a lazy egg. He is depicted as different egg dishes. He is hard to motivate and is known to have depression. His name is derived from the words "Gude" meaning lazy and "tama" meaning egg. Due to his popularity, merchandises from stationery to toys can be seen and bought all over Japan. Additionally, pop-up cafes have started to cater dishes which contain egg that depicts Gudetama himself. A short minute anime featuring the character was also released. This anime also feature a humanoid form of Gudetama called Nisetama-san.

A game was also released where you can create Gudetama dishes. No cooking skill is required, all you need is luck and to monitor the time. If time passed by and you haven't played the roulette, the chances of getting the egg dish that was posted on the dish menu will be too little and chances of getting the burnt Gudetama will be high. You will need to cook that particular dish again.

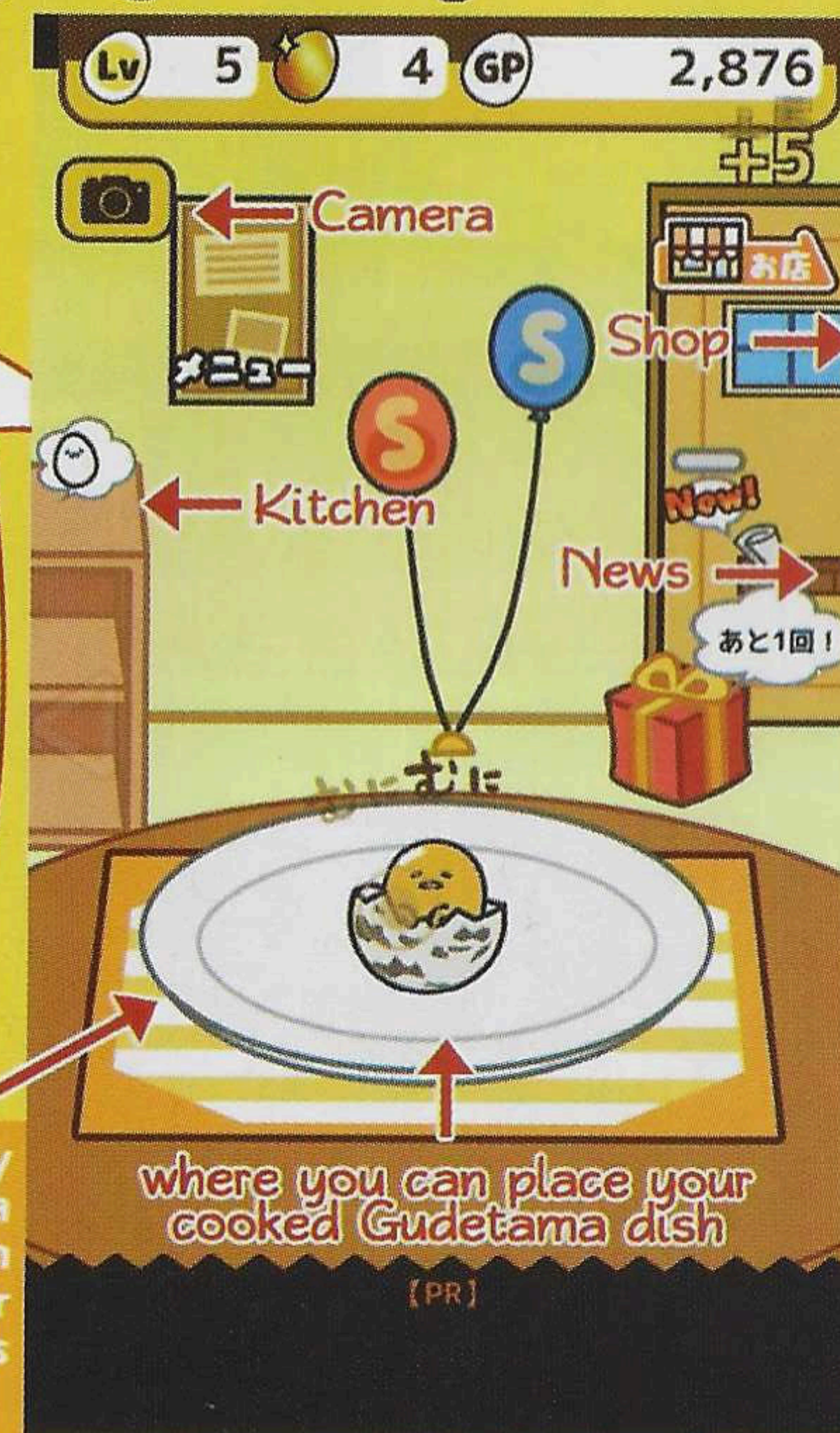


Guide to playing the game:

Kitchen:



Tap Gudetama continuously to earn GP. If you tap him for a long period of time, you can unlock the phrase he says for the particular egg dish that is placed on the white plate.

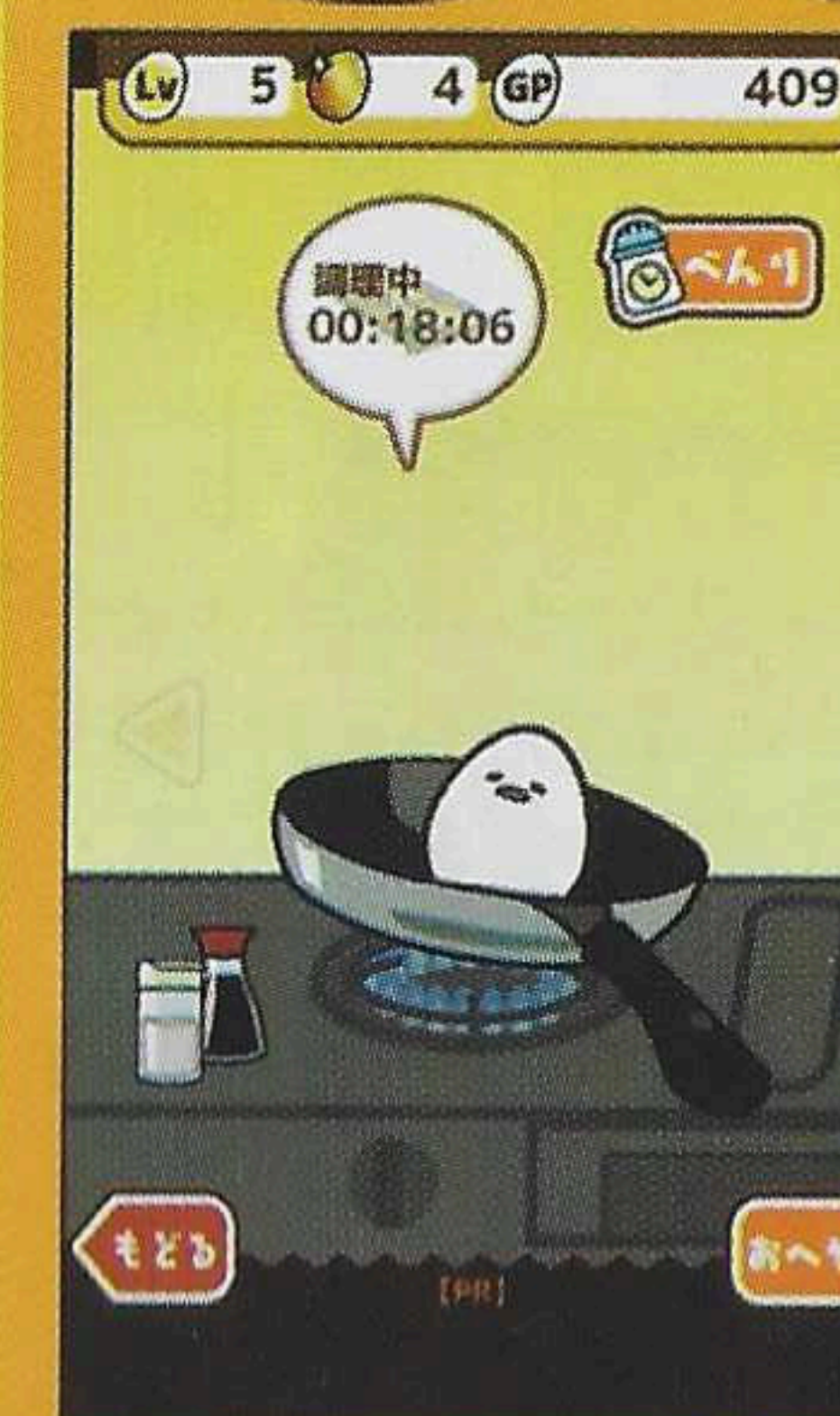


where you can place your cooked Gudetama dish

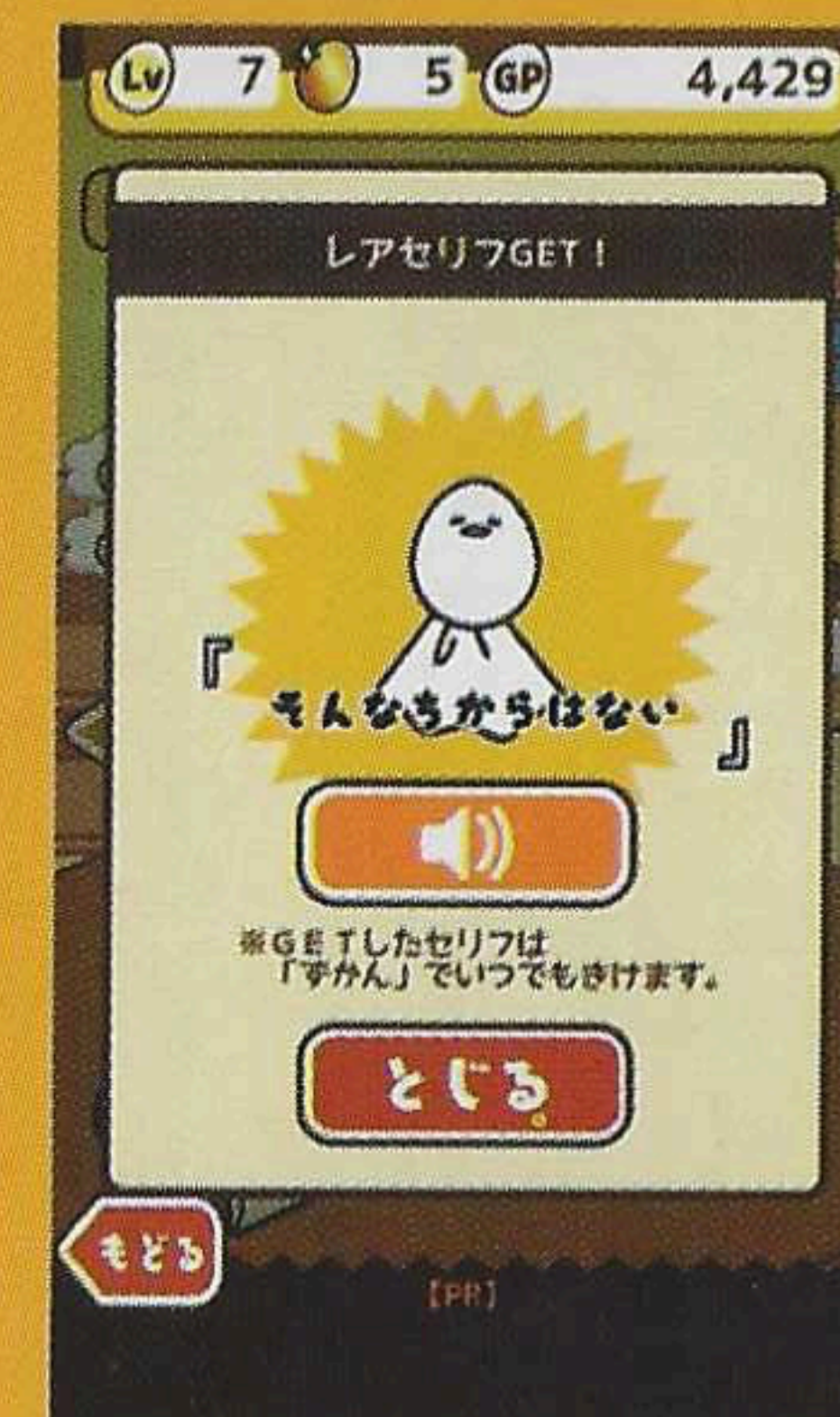
Tip: In the shop menu, buy the blue book which can be found on the first tab, so that you can see your status with the different Gudetama dishes.

I like the graphics of the game because it's catchy and pleasant to look plus the graphics were really good even if I play it on the tablet. I also like the fact that in this game, you won't be needing to play it in one sit, you just visit it and play from time to time. The sounds that were used in the background also really suits Gudetama: his lazy aura.

If you are a player of cooking games then you'll also love this game. Aside from the fact that it's Gudetama (he's my favorite character in Sanrio) it also amazes me how an egg could be an ingredient in many dishes. The game is also free to be downloaded! Be amazed with the laziness of Gudetama while cooking him into different dishes in Touch me! Gudetama.



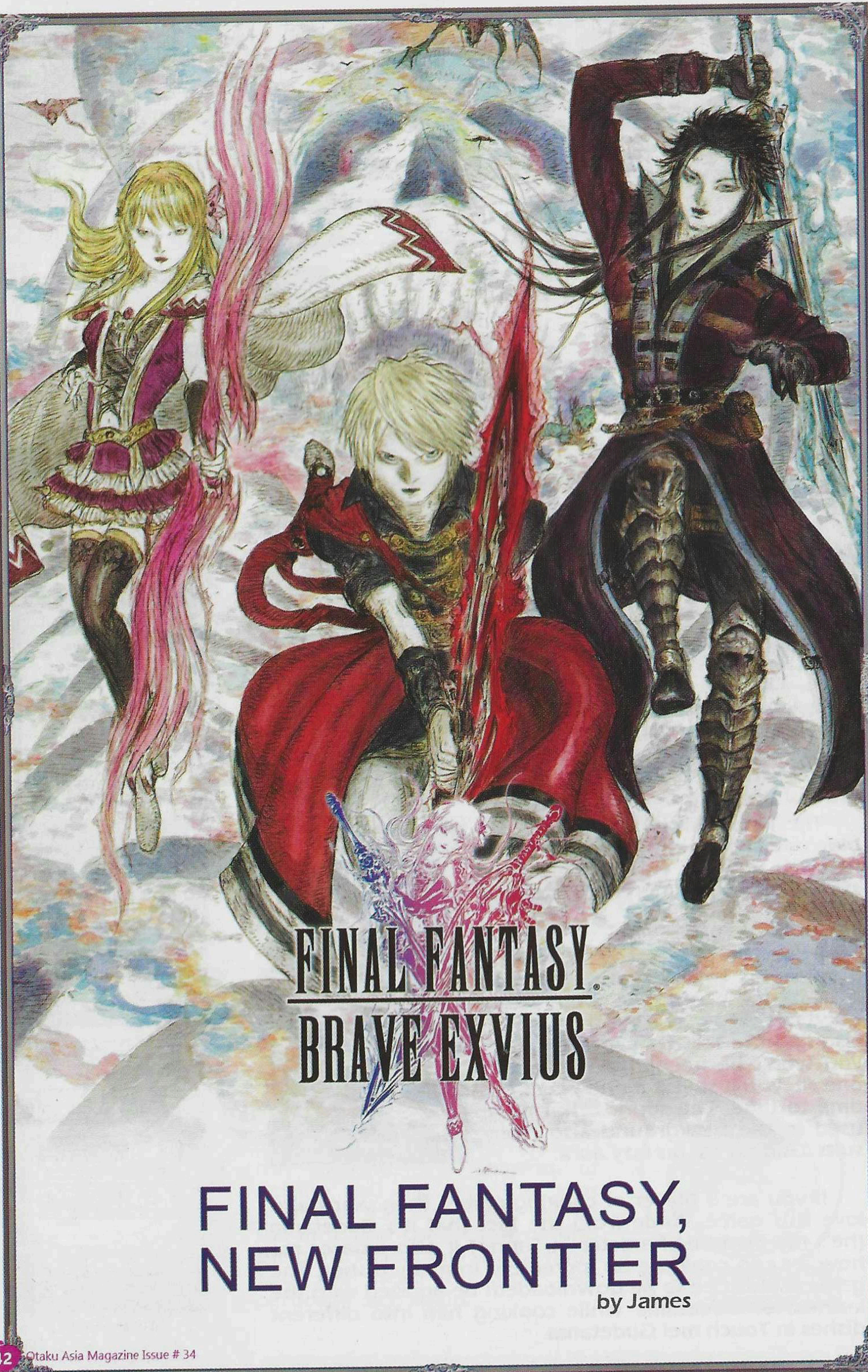
Each dish may vary on the time of cooking



Each egg dish also have two sounds that needs to be unlocked so keep tapping!



[Shop Menu]



Final Fantasy has conquered almost all platforms. And now, with **Final Fantasy Brave Exvius**, it too has made its mark in the smartphone gaming scene. It's not exactly the first Final Fantasy game for Android and IOS, but it is the second phone-based Final Fantasy game that isn't a port of previously existing ones or a Final Fantasy that uses characters from other Final Fantasy series, and the first one to be a hybrid of Final Fantasy and your usual "card-collecting smartphone RPG subgenre. And with it being the first crossover of those two, it manages to be a fresh take of the latter and the former.

The beauty of Final Fantasy Brave Exvius is that it manages to combine the "card-collecting" in phone RPGs like that of Brave Frontier, and the old-school feel of Final Fantasy, complete with 2D graphics, simple yet fun turn-based gameplay, an engaging plot, and interesting characters. And in this latest Final Fantasy offering, we have two valiant knights, Sir **Rain** and childhood friend **Lasswell**, sees a glimpse of a woman trapped in a crystal, asking for their aid. They answer her call, so they follow her to the Earth Crystal, and they discover that it is under attack by **Veritas of the Dark**, a Dark Lord who is a member of the Sworn Six of Paradis. Failing to stop the Veritas and wary of his motives, the two set out on a quest to save the world.

What sets this game apart – and is also perhaps the game's selling point – is the gacha system of the game, which summons familiar monsters, spells, and even characters from various Final Fantasy titles. This gives the game not only a massive nostalgia appeal, but also the variety and excitement brought about by a "gacha-focused" smartphone RPG. And what sets this game apart from gacha-collecting games is that it's very much Final Fantasy when it comes to moving around the world, and by that I mean you actually get to move around the world by yourself and not just through a series of nodules on a world map.

All in all, Final Fantasy Brave Exvius is a take that is true to both the genre and the franchise it's in. And because of the different allures it has because of its many and intersecting elements, it shouldn't be any surprise why it's picked up by both Final Fantasy fans and smartphone RPG fans in general.



Notice Me Senpai!

article by Lizac 3.0

We hear this literally all the time and it almost sounds like a joke now, but the sentence "Notice me Senpai" has reached so many levels, now including a game inspired from it!

Notice me Senpai is a mobile app game developed in 2015 by Skillshot Labs based in the Philippines. The game slowly gained popularity in social media by the first quarter of 2016 and since then, there have been more than 500,000 downloads in the Play Store alone. It has a touch of otome features (one main female girl and many handsome guys vying for her love) and dialogues from the senpai. From the name itself, the player is trying to be "noticed by senpai" through the drinks offered in the cafe and decorations.

"You" the player, has enrolled as the first female student into an elite all-boys school. You work as an all-around barista in the Third Year Building café to save funds for your tuition. There, many handsome senpais are the customers. Each senpai has five hearts, which indicate how attached he is to you and how much he likes the café. The more you interact with a senpai and put his favorite items on display, the more hearts will light up and affection level increases. You can buy and display different items through the money paid by the visitors. For each item displayed, a particular senpai will appear if it is his favorite. Once three hearts are highlighted, the senpai will give you a personal letter. When it reaches the fifth heart, there is a CG of a senpai confessing his admiration or love to you.



Some of the Senpais and Their Favorite Items



Izumi senpai

He is known to be the nerd senpai and is wearing eyeglasses. He likes to hang around the small bookshelf.



Touya senpai

He is from the art club. He is enamored by items like the painting of a lady and the mirror.



Yuu senpai

He looks like the youngest senpai, but he acts maturely. He loves candies and would be seen mostly using the gum machine.



Hajime senpai

He looks adventurous and energetic. He likes school festivals and is often seen playing the taiko drum in the café.



Ren senpai

He likes to laze around the soft armchair and has his earphones on most of the time.



Reiji senpai

He loves to do experiments in the lab and is often seen wearing a labcoat. He likes to have the pet cat around him.



Shun senpai

He is a total gamer and loves snacks like chocolate cupcakes and cookies.



Souma senpai

He is from the gourmet club. He likes to have miso soup and hangs most often around the ice cream machine.



Wakatoshi senpai

He is a delinquent senpai, but actually a very kindhearted character. He likes to sing a lot, so make sure you have the jukebox if you want to see him.



Makoto senpai

He is the captain of the basketball team. He likes the items basketball and guitar.



Tokiya senpai

He is from the drama club. He likes the mirror so he could practice his lines while watching himself.



Baa senpai

There's a rumor going on that Baa senpai is actually just wearing a mask and the face behind it is handsome, but he could also be just a goat. He likes the flower vase and the small orange tree.



Soujiro senpai

He is a fine young man with conventional hobbies such as calligraphy. He likes the traditional tea set.



Souh senpai

He is the butler senpai and has refined manners. He would often use the piano or the fancy tea set.



Touru senpai

He is the student council president. As he is often busy, he likes to take a break and rest using the reclining chair. He is also often seen around the large bookshelf.



Hideki senpai

He is a huge crammer and uses the PC station in the café most of the time.



Suzuki senpai

He is the idol in the list of senpai. He likes to cuddle a stuffed bear and also plays the piano.



Yamato senpai

He is a rocker and loves the guitar.



Takeru senpai

He is the only one you probably know too well out of all the guest senpais because he is your childhood senpai.

The best thing about Notice Me Senpai is you can download it for free! Just go to iTunes App Store for Apple users or the Google Play Store for Android. Are you ready for the flock of handsome senpais? Try this game and you will soon have a problem choosing who the best senpai is!

見られたダブルフェイス!
宿命が導く、頂上決戦ミステリー!!
バトルロイヤル



More than Meets the Eye

Detective Conan: The Darkest Nightmare

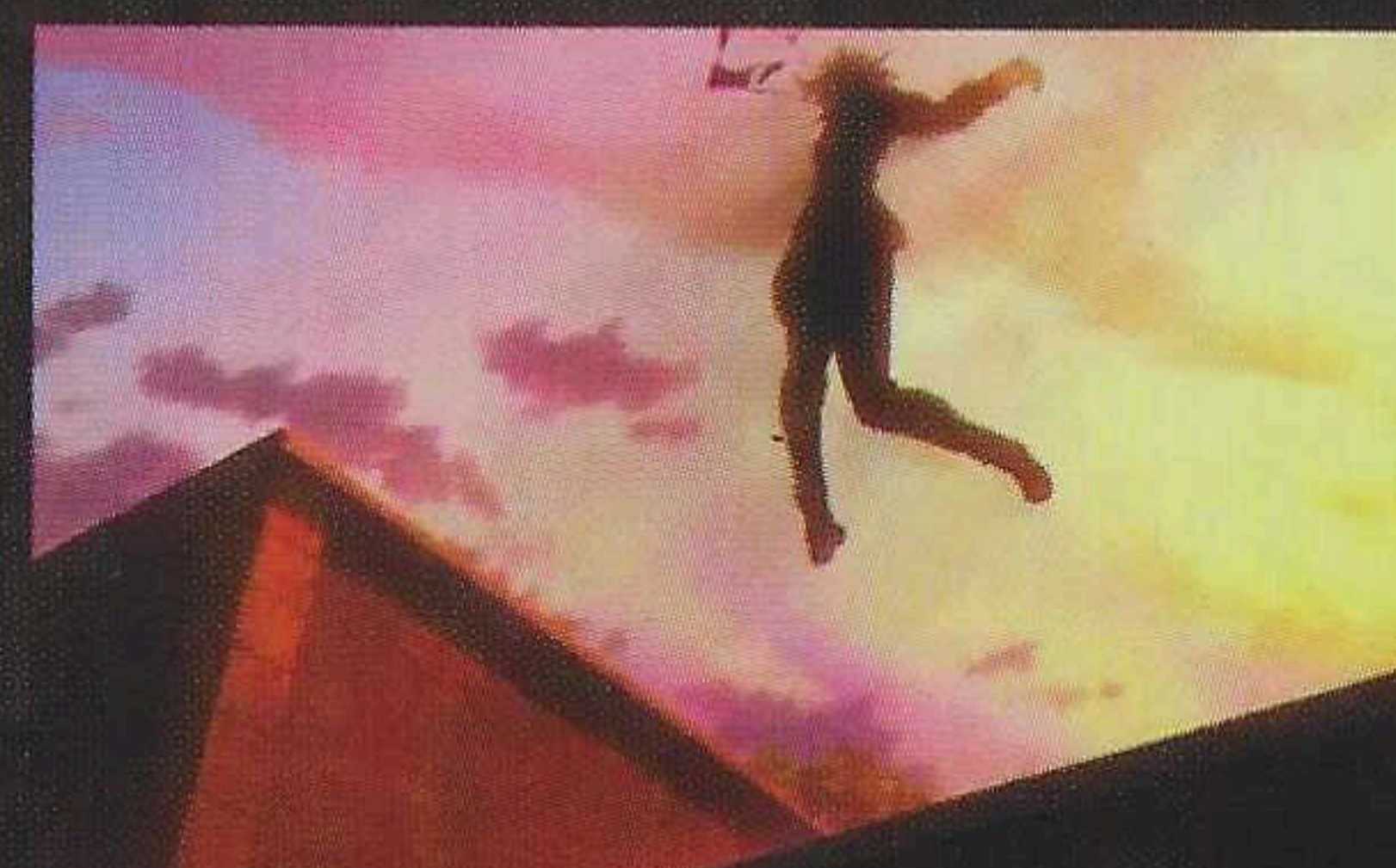
Mysterious assassinations are happening around the world; the suspect: a spy with access to classified files. One dark night in Japan, the Japanese police headquarters is broken in to. The files on spies planted in the Black Organization was almost taken if not before Rei Furuya and his group arrived in time. The confrontation ended up in a highway speed chase to be halted by a sniper named Shuichi Akai who caused the spy's car to explode.



The next day comes and Conan, Professor Agasa, Haibara, and the Detective Boys meet up at the newly renovated "Tohto Aquarium". In the ferris wheel area, they met an amnesiac woman with odd eyes and with this, Conan's group decided to help the woman regain her memories. Unbeknownst to them, Vermouth is lurking nearby with a silenced pistol on hand, muttering the words, "it's as planned, Gin" to her comrades.

Detective Conan: Junkoku no Naitomea or Detective Conan: The Darkest Nightmare is the 20th movie installment of the Case Closed film series based from the manga series with the same name by Gosho Aoyama. The movie is directed by Kobun Shizuno and produced by TMS Entertainment. It is also the third movie about the Black Organization and the movie itself will feature characters from the organization who appeared in the series. The Darkest Nightmare follows and tops the 2015 movie Detective Conan: Sunflowers of the Inferno for the highest-grossing film in the series.

Wondering who is this woman with odd eyes? Get answers and experience thrilling mystery adventure with the Deduction Freak by watching The Darkest Nightmare!



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The legal working age in Japan is 15. Right after high school, the Japanese are able to choose to either land a job or continue their studies in college. Aoba Suzukaze chose the former in a frenzy of excitement to work in gaming company as an artist. She has been a fan of the game, Fairies Story produced by Eagle Jump and to work in the same company is her dream come true.

NEW GAME!

The anime New Game! is based on a 4-koma manga published by Houbunsha in Manga Time Kirara Carat. Made by Doga Kobo, the anime is a huge step up from their last season flop, Sansha Sanyō. Although if you are coming from Shirobako and expecting some game development process, you will not get it here. The anime focuses on the characters and office antics. This slice-of life comedy is full of female characters and guilt-free fanservice.

Directed by Yoshiyuki Fujiwara and written by Fumihiko Shimo, New Game! has a total of 12 episodes since its start last July 2016. The opening and ending themes respectively are "Sakura Skip" (SAKURAスキップ Sakura Sukippu) and "Now Loading!!!", both performed by Fourfolium (the four main characters/seiyuus). A visual novel is being developed by 5pb. titled New Game!: The Challenge Stage and will be released for PlayStation 4 and PlayStation Vita in Japan on January 2017.

CHARACTERS

aoba suzukaze

CV: Yūki Takada

Birthday: February 2

Height: 149 cm

Zodiac: Aquarius

Blood Type: O

Likes: Japanese sweets such as rice crackers and red bean jelly, Salisbury steak

Dislikes: Spicy food, bitter food, stimulating things, all athletics

Traits: Always thinks positively

Aoba is the main character of New Game!. Inspired by her favorite game, she joins the ranks of the game developers after graduating high school.

She idolizes the character designer of the game Fairies' Story, Ko Yagami who is now her supervisor in Eagle Jump. Aoba is very serious as earnest in her work as character designer but as a rookie she is a bit lacking.



ko yagami

CV: Yōko Hikasa

Birthday: August 2
Height: 164cm
Zodiac: Leo
Blood Type: A
Likes: Rin's handmade food
Dislikes: Crowds, places with much noise
Traits: Can sleep anywhere at anytime

As lead character designer, she oversees Aoba's work in the office. While she works more comfortably alone and seriously, she is working hard to be a leader though she still works alone to the point of spending the night in the office.



rin toyama

CV: Ai Kayano

Birthday: December 3
Height: 158cm
Zodiac: Sagittarius
Blood Type: B
Likes: Western food, such as pasta
Dislikes: Directions
Traits: Mathematical calculations, dealing with people

The art director of Fairie's Story and supervises all graphics work. She entered the company the same time as Yagami and tends to dote on her even outside work.



hifumi takimoto

CV: Ai Yamaguchi

Birthday: January 23
Height: 162cm
Zodiac: Aquarius
Blood Type: AB
Likes: Rice, sake
Dislikes: people
Traits: quickly typing texts

Soft spoken and reticent, she prefers to speak through the company chatbox as she helps Aoba with basic questions around the company. She starts to talk more as the anime progresses. She is fond of her pet hedgehog, Sojiro.



hajime shinoda

CV: Megumi Toda

Birthday: January 1
Height: 157cm
Zodiac: Capricorn
Blood Type: O
Likes: Meat, fast food
Dislikes: novels and things with many letters
Traits: All sports

Despite being part of the motions department, she sits near Aoba in the character department booth. Her desk is full of replica blades and figurines which is both hobby and practical pieces for work.



yun iijima

CV: Ayumi Takeo

Birthday: December 6
Height: 151cm
Zodiac: Sagittarius
Blood Type: A
Likes: Ramen
Dislikes: Natto, athletics
Traits: Sewing, all household chores

She likes to eat and even brings tea and sweets to work for their breaks. She thinks that she has gains weight and is very conscious of her figure. She designs the monster characters in the game.



nene sakura

CV: Madoka Asahina

Birthday: May 5
Height: 144cm
Zodiac: Taurus
Blood Type: B
Likes: Cola, potato chips, sweets
Dislikes: getting up in the morning
Traits: Full of energy

A college student and childhood friend of Aoba. She often calls her over the phone after hours and calls each other 'aocchi' and 'necchi'. She is also baby-faces and gets mistaken for a child. She worries over the hardworking Aoba.



umiko ahagon

CV: Chitose Morinaga

Birthday: July 20
Height: 162cm
Zodiac: Cancer
Blood Type: AB
Likes: Curry, spicy food
Dislikes: Bugs (especially centipedes)
Traits: Gun shooting

Programmer in the program team of Eagle Jump. She is a fanatic of airsoft and military. Somehow, she is also often seen managing the director, Shizuku. She is strict but actually very nice.



shizuku haduki

CV: Eri Kitamura

Birthday: May 22
Height: 161cm
Zodiac: Gemini
Blood Type: AB
Likes: Chocolate

Dislikes: hot food (burns tongue easily)
Traits: memorizing profiles of cute girls

She comes up from nowhere and tries to follow the progress of all the departments including Aoba's as the director. She would not reveal her age and insists that she is 20 years old. She has a cat that she brings to work named Mozuku because it sounds cute.



Eagle Jump is a gaming company in the anime and is in a very colorful building with 6 floors (the top two floors are for Eagle Jump). The cubicles are arranged per department and has green walls. Some people decorate their station as long as this does not go over and bother the neighbor.

They are currently working on the third instalment of the popular game and also the same game that inspired Aoba Suzukaze to be a game developer, Fairie's Story.



At first, the anime was simply not my cup of tea, all the characters are female and most of them have voices that I could not stand. However it's a different setting: the workplace. Not many anime would risk putting out a mature anime like this when the audience are mostly students. While the anime is very cutesy, it is set very low as the story progresses more about Aoba's growth as a working adult and the challenges of her job. It could be because it's a Doga Kobo production that I think of Umaru in most of the circumstances (someone does something mildly unusual and all main characters overreacts). I would have also liked it more if the characters had more distinct designs because I could not see how Yun sees herself as chubby when a slight change of eye color and hairstyle and she could be just another character.

It's not all bad, I do follow the anime. I like the songs and I stay for them rather than skimming. I also think that the anime need not to go deeper as the characters are already established as eccentric and gives Aoba much of the interaction a fun anime needs. The anime is light, fluffy and fun that I could also say that my high school brother watches it to unwind.



While I am amazed by the quality of the anime, such as backgrounds and colors. As mentioned, their character design could ask for a bit more distinctions and difference. I do enjoy their icons and artworks all the same. Keep up the good work!



Watch the anime and remember your first internship or job, if none, well, this is a good look into the 'first job' experience.



CHARACTER BIO

You Watanabe

article by: Xander

Birthday:
April 17

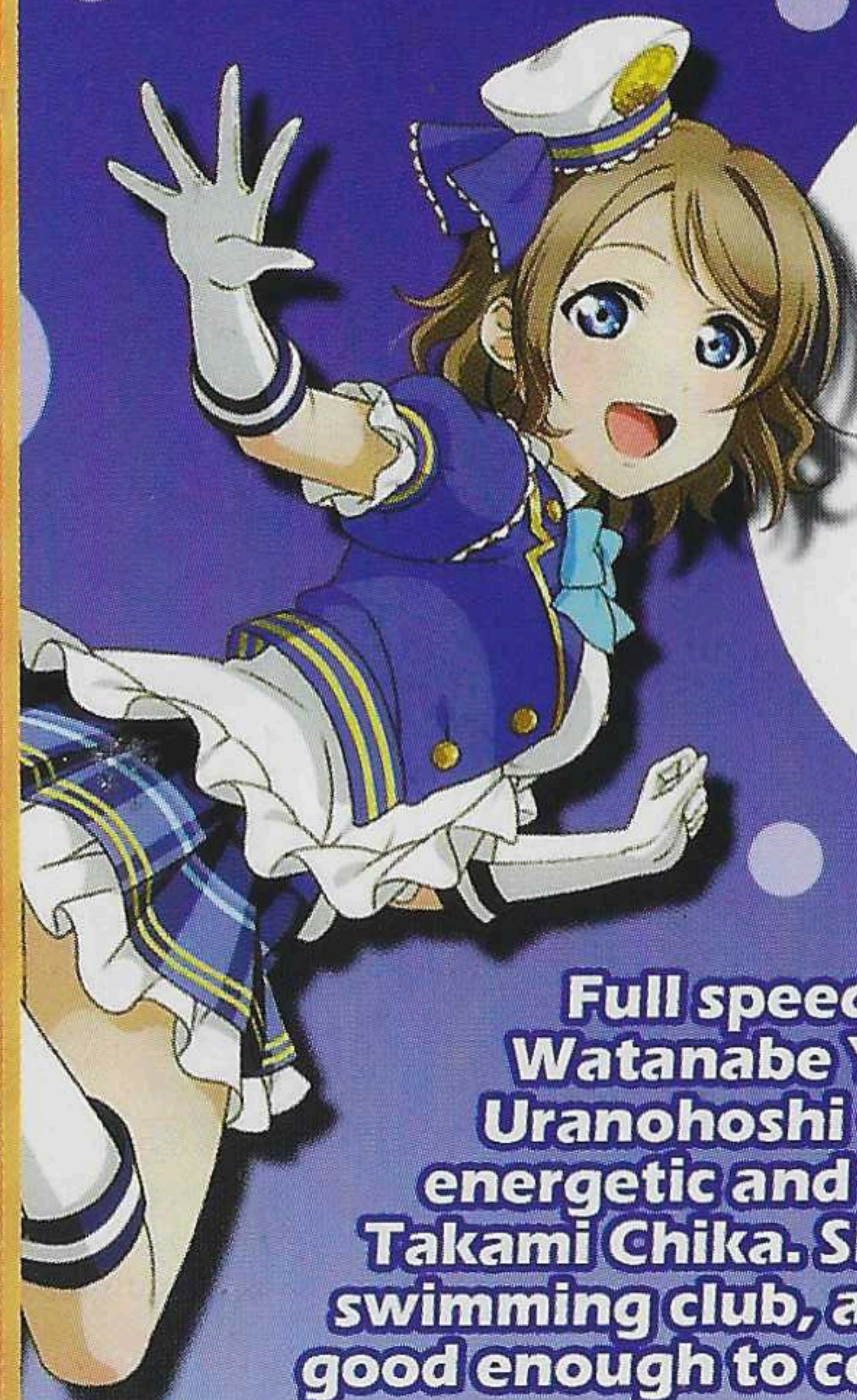
Zodiac Sign:
Aries

Age: 16

Club: Swimming and
School Idol Club

CV: Shuka Saito

Series:
Love Live Sunshine!!



Full speed ahead! Yousoo!
Watanabe You is a 2nd Year in
Uranohoshi Girl's High. A very
energetic and supportive friend of
Takami Chika. She is part of their school
swimming club, and her skills at high dive is
good enough to compete with National Team.



You's father is a Ship Captain, so she has adapted the action of saluting. She dreams of becoming a captain of her own ferry. She is also fond of uniforms of uniformed occupations. You is responsible for designing of their group costumes thanks to her knowledge on uniforms.

Her typical off-day schedule consists of jogging, muscle training and Aqours practice.

Her kindness and happy-go-lucky personality makes her outstanding member of the group. Even though sometimes she seems to be childish, she can see right through her friends when something is bothering them, especially with Chika.

All in all, I'm sure You is one of the best girl the series has to offer, and you'll love her more each episode.





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甘々と稲妻

Amaama to Inazuma

GOOD FOOD IS THE BEST!

by Yani

Cooking is one of the things that every parent must learn in order to take care of their children. Unfortunately for Kohei, her wife Tae passed away and he was left alone to take care of their daughter, Tsumugi. Unable to cook good food like her wife, he buys readymade meals for them.

The two went together for a flower viewing when they encountered Kotori Iida. It turns out that she was crying not because she was alone but because how good her mother's cooking was. Tsumugi got curious on how good it was; Kotori was supposed to give her a piece but ended up finishing all the food. Kotori invited them to eat at her mother's restaurant.

Kohei sees her daughter craving for a proper meal which made them rush into the restaurant that turns out to be closed on that day. Feeling sorry for them, Kotori asked them to stay and made them pot rice. Seeing how his daughter was happy from it, he promised himself and Tsumugi that he will learn and cook proper meals for the both of them. Eventually, Kotori invites Kohei to cook food in the restaurant from time to time.

Amaama to Inazuma is a manga series written by Gido Amagakure and published by Kodansha. An anime series was released last July 2016 by TMS Entertainment and is directed by Tarou Iwasaki.

An anime with a genre of slice of life is indeed a good anime like *Amaama to Inazuma*. I'm sure that some of us can relate with the story and the characters. Tsumugi grew up nicely and she follows whatever her dad says and she can also be childish and stubborn at times which will make you want to have a child like her. Despite of being a single parent who has work during the day, he makes sure that he and Tsumugi will have time together and attend to her needs. Watching the anime also will make you crave for food; the animation and art is indeed awesome like cooking/food anime.

Let's follow Kohei's quest as he learns to cook proper food together with Kotori; what kind of challenges will they face? Knowing that kids are not fond of eating vegetables, will Tsumugi be able to eat them? Let us also not forget the cuteness of Kohei's blonde daughter Tsumugi who will surely bring smiles in us in every episode of *Amaama to Inazuma*!





Most people, upon being presented with a difficult task, would most likely try to rely on other people in order to not be crushed by the heavy burden. Though rare, there is also an opposite type to those kinds of people, who single-handedly handles these troublesome issues due to their convictions and faith in oneself.

Servamp is a shounen anime series by **Brain Base** studio for the summer 2016 season. The anime is an adaptation from **Strike Tanaka's** Servamp manga that is currently serialized in a shoujo magazine, Monthly Comic Gene and is currently ongoing since 2011. Servamp features **Deal with** by **OLDCODEX** as it's opening theme, and **sunlight avenue** by **Takuma Terashima** as the ending theme.

The story revolves around **Shirota Mahiru**, a foster child who was taken in by his uncle at a young age when her mother passed away due to an accident. Mahiru, who dislikes complicated stuffs and likes keeping things simple, one day, picks up a stray cat on the way home to which he named **Kuro**. A strange rumor has also been circulating around town about a vampire attacking people and sucking their blood. Little does Mahiru know that his convictions would get him involved in a war between these so called creatures of the night.

Servamp, servants and vampires, focuses on the idea of bonds between humans and vampires. If you are a fan of vampire animes and wants to experience something different, then Servamp should be right in your alley. The anime is packed with great action, dramas that would pull your heart strings and a good story that would surely quench your thirst.



MAHIRUSHIROTA

A normal high school student who got involved in a conflict between the Servamp siblings. Mahiru is the most responsible guy in class who is very talented when it comes to doing household chores which resulted to the class relying on him for every troublesome tasks. Due to his personality and sudden turn of events, Mahiru became an Eve and got contracted with the vampire Kuro.

KURO

Known to other vampires as Sleepy Ash, is the servamp who represents Sloth. Kuro, being contracted with Mahiru, is bounded to always be by his side. He turns into a black cat whenever he comes into contact with sunlight. In contrary to his lazy attitude, Sleepy Ash is said to be the most powerful between all the servamp siblings.



TSUBAKI

The vampire of melancholy and self proclaimed eighth servamp, despite there was only supposed to be seven that each represents the seven deadly sins. Tsubaki's psychotic way of thinking is to eliminate and kill anyone and everyone who doesn't know him. He commands an army of subclass vampires that shares his murderous intents.



BLACK IS BACK

by James

Once again, the famous black swordsman is back, and by that I don't mean Kirito. Yes, Guts, after almost two decades of absence, is back into the anime limelight. And because of the great span of time in between the two seasons, there has been much improvement to the adaptation of the original bloody-brutal seinen manga.

For long-time fans, it's once again time to go berserk with, well, Berserk. For the uninitiated, Berserk is a dark fantasy manga drawn and written by **Kentaro Miura** in 1988, and has been running ever since, although its chapters are now released at irregular intervals. The story is set in a grim and gritty medieval Europe-esque world and is centered on **Guts**, a lone mercenary who got recruited to the mercenary group **Band of the Hawk**; **Griffith**, its leader; and **Casca**, a fellow mercenary that Guts has fallen in love with. Living in a time of war and dark forces ravaging the country of Midland, Guts encounters struggle after struggle, one near-impossible battle after another with various eldritch abominations his way, and one misfortune after another.

The new anime, being the second season of the first, picks up from where the **Golden Arc** film trilogy, which served as a bridge between the two seasons. For the 2016 anime, which is under studios **Millepensee** and **GEMBA**, we find our dark anti-hero cursed by his former friend and leader Griffith, who turned evil. This causes Guts to be chased almost everywhere by almost all sorts of evil. But Guts is all but defeated by the hell his companion-turned-enemy thrust him into; instead, his dire predicament – which is an understatement – drives him to exact vengeance upon Griffith. The question, however, is whether Guts will succeed or not.

If you're new to the entire Berserk mythos, it's mandatory to watch first the 1997 anime and then the Golden Arc film trilogy so you can follow the flow of the story, as you'll definitely get lost if you jump right into the 2016 anime. And speaking of jumping right in, be warned that this isn't a lighthearted tale, as the story that is punishing to the characters, and it also depicts violence and other disturbing themes. If you're okay with that though, then you'll definitely enjoy the bloodiness and grittiness of it all through and through. On the other hand, if you're already up to speed, then you'll definitely find the 2016 anime as a faithful and well-drawn follow up.

Berserk has never been and never will be for the faint of heart, so it follows suit that the 2016 anime still isn't. But for those who can take it, it's going to continue as a show that has a deep and dark soul that satisfies the most macabre of tastes.





UNDER THE DOG

Our enemy is the light of humanity

by Kaddy

The story for this has been around since the 1990s by Jiro Ishii, intended to be a 26-episode series. When it was resurrected, the team chose to fund it through a Kickstarter to retain creative freedom but gained creative differences between Creative Intelligence Arts and Kinema Citrus leaving the latter the project. A trailer was released heavily focusing on the character, Anthea Kallenberg fighting in the streets of Neo Tokyo.

When the OVA came out in August, many were shocked to find that the story did not feature Anthea up until the end. Instead, the story relied heavily on another Flowers, a 17-year-old Japanese high school student named Hana Togetsu. She poses as a transfer student at a public school on Enoshima Island to secure her target, Sunichi Nanase. When the school was raided by American military forces, the pair find themselves between a Pandora, a creature that is "the nemesis of hope" and the military out to find Sunichi. In the Flowers HQ, help is sent out in the form of Anthea. When she arrives to the side of the dying Hana, she is told "sorry you always get to do the dirty jobs" as she pulls the trigger on the latter. As Hana dies, so did her parents as they are considered hostages. In an attempt to kill the Pandora, Anthea realizes that Sunichi is not the "hope" that they are looking for and kills him as well. The OVA ends with the Flowers looking down at the ruins of the school and with Anthea saying that they are made to kill their "hope" but there is hope.

While the story did not have any character development nor any explanation to the setting and plot, the goal of the Kickstarter was to create a Sci-Fi work that explores "what it meant to live and die well" and I believe that the short introduction on the life of Hana throughout the anime captured that perfectly. I have many unanswered questions at the end of the anime and I do feel that they will never be answered but I still feel complete. The anime did a good job setting the audience up for a good story and with an open ending like that, I am free to speculate many things on my own: that the Flowers has an ability that makes them a lean mean killing machine when their eyes turn green, that Whites must be secured and that Blacks must be eliminated and that Anthea is the pride of the Flowers and more. I pray that this story be told the way it was supposed to have, a 26-episode series in the future as it has much potential.



I am Not Your Princess!

by Yani

Yukina remembers clearly what her father told her when she was still little: "demons will return to earth" before he went missing. One day, Yukina Shirahame went to U.N. Research Institute together with her friend Mika where their parents were working. Upon stalling within the premises, Mr. Aramata, a researcher there showed her a large black cube which was found while excavating the Kurobe dam where the Facility is located 60 years ago. Yukina touched the glowing section of the cube which opened; revealing a young naked man named Kennosuke Tokisada. The man awakens and kneels before Yukine calling her princess.

It turns out that Kennosuke lived during the Sengoku period and Yukine resembles her princess Yukihiime. Yukine's family help Kennosuke adjust at the 21st century. He became one of UN's strong asset since he can pilot the Black Relic: the most effective weapon against Efy Dolgh together with Yukine since the Black Relic requires two pilots. She accidentally biometrically synchronized herself to it and only the people who were synchronized to the Black Relic can operate it. Efy Dolgh is an extraterrestrial force that invaded earth during the Sengoku period and now the 21st century.

Kuromukuro is a mecha anime series by P.A. works; written by Tensai Okamura and written by Hiroako Tsutsumi. The anime was made in order to celebrate the 15th anniversary of P.A. works.

Fan of mecha with love story? If yes then you will surely love this anime. Two people crossed paths who were raised from 2 different periods. Kennosuke is always there for Yukine to save her from danger. Another thing that might make you ship them is their interactions with each other. Will Kennosuke get to see Yukine as herself and not Yukihiime?

Another thing that I've liked with the anime is it's art. It's really catchy for me to have it watched and I will surely make sure that you'll love this anime. The art style and story is superb. There are also many things that needs to be answered for us to get curious like why did Yukine's father disappeared? and why Efy Dolgh wants to invade earth. Let's get hooked together with this anime with Yukine and Kennosuke's fight against Efy Dogh and their character development; especially with each other.





Banana's Secret~

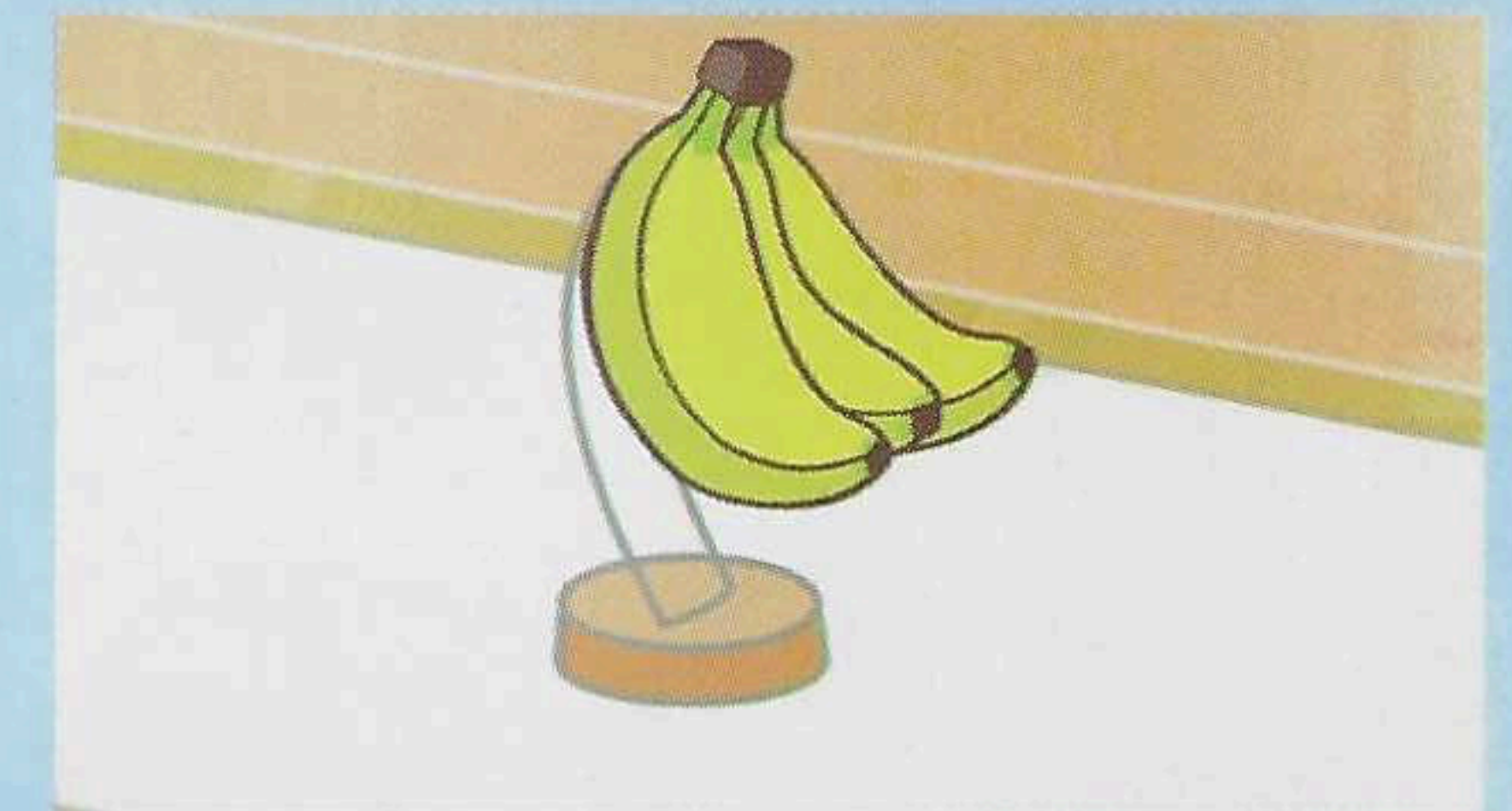
by Yani

Banana is the name given to large perennial plants of the genus *musaceae* *musa* which is the same banana that we love to eat nowadays. Hmm.. were you thinking of a different kind of banana? Bananas have a secret that no one would expect. What could this be? Let's find out.

Enter Bananya, a cat that lives inside a real banana. He sneaks around whenever no one is around and he secretly plays and causes mischief. Aside from that, he also love sweet things and he dreams of becoming a stylish chocolate banana! However, he is always seen wearing the banana peeling and no one has seen him without nor if he's hiding something inside.

Bananya is an anime television series produced by Gathering and TMS Entertainment. It started airing last July 2016 and this show is suitable to all ages.

This is indeed a cute and funny anime that will make you laugh and will make you feel better somehow. Even if it is short, every scene is precious and it wouldn't hurt to watch an episode every now and then. Watch out also for other cats that also live inside the banana that you'll surely also love. Don't forget that Bananya is always here to make us laugh with the stuffs he do all the way nya~



Will Fight in a War for Gold

by Reikisha



In the land of Resonail, four powerful nations are locked in a four-way battle for dominance.

After the downfall of the legendary Uldein Empire, wars are no longer fought by soldiers who swore allegiance to their nation, but by mercenaries who are paid by the highest bidder. Honor and loyalty means nothing in the battlefield if it won't earn you prestige and gold.

Attention all mercenary captains! Now is the time for you to show off your strategic mind and battle prowess in this highly acclaimed tactical RPG of 2015. As the captain of a small squad of skilled mercenaries, what will be your stance in this new age of war?

Grand Kingdom is a tactical role playing game developed by **Monochrome Corporation** for the PlayStation 4 and PlayStation Vita. The game is published by **Spike Chunsoft** in Japan and **NIS America** in North America. **Grand Kingdom** was released in Japan on November 2015 while the NA and EU version was released on June 2016.

Gameplay

Players takes on the role of a rookie mercenary leader who only have a handful of mercenaries at the start of the game. The player will be accompanied by two NPCs named Flint and Lilia. These two are the only ones who interact with the player during quests and downtime sessions. Flint provides general information to the player such as tips and tricks during battle and detailed information about other mercenary squads while Lilia takes care of the clerical tasks such as monitoring the policies the player approves and hiring new mercenaries.



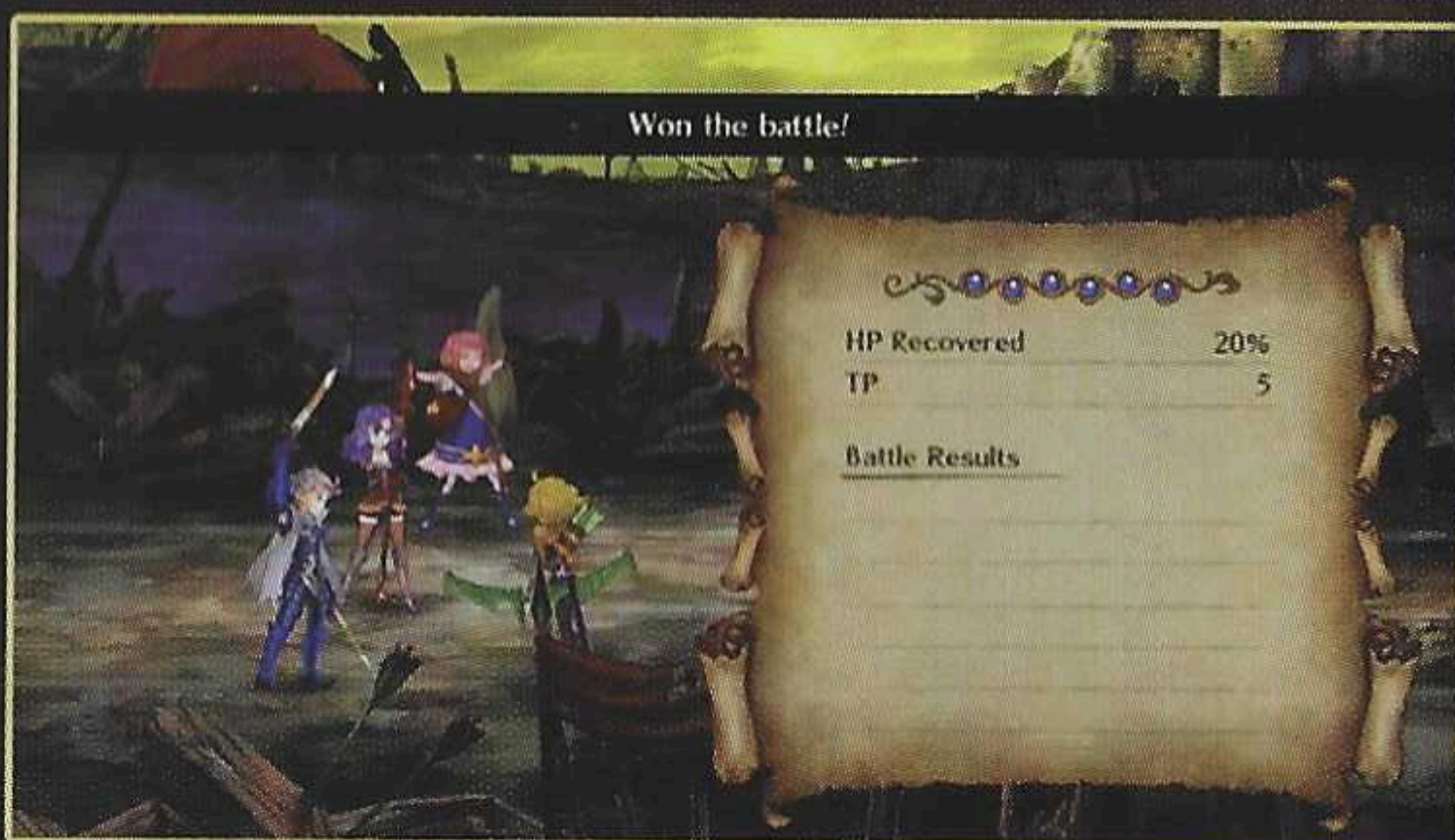
There are 17 gender-locked classes in **Grand Kingdom**:



Review

This game revolutionized the way TRPGs should be played. It combines traditional TRPG with a bit of hack-and-slash and tabletop RPG. What makes Grand Kingdom a very interesting game is that it allows the player to create and assemble their own mercenary squad based from their preferences or unique playstyle. The diversity of the 17 classes also unlock new possibilities for the player in order to conquer the battlefields of Resonail.

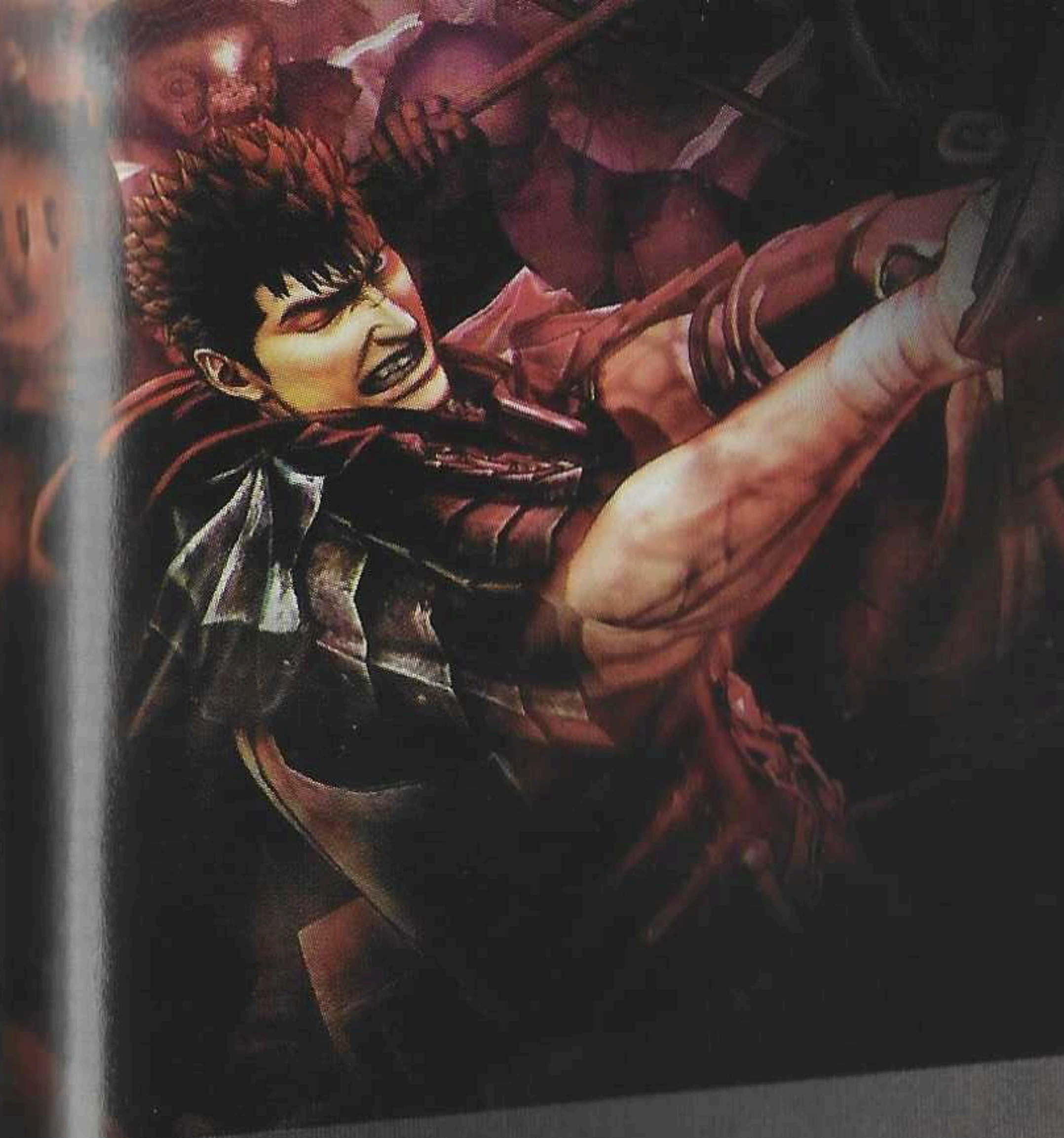
Content-wise, the game's 40-hour story mode may be not enough for hardcore players. Don't worry though, because Grand Kingdom will never run out of single quests even after you've cleared the main story. The real fun, however, comes from the online function of the PS Vita, where you can form a contract and lend your skills to a nation for a maximum of 5 wars. You can also play with or against other players who are also leading a mercenary squad.



Grand Kingdom is a fun and unique TRPG that surpassed our expectations. The gameplay is superb, the artstyle is pleasing to the eyes, and the soundtrack really gets you hyped every battle.

What's not to like about this game?

Overall, Grand Kingdom is a game that you must try if you're a huge fan of strategy RPGs. 10/10 would recommend to people who are looking for a new game to play in their PS4 or Vita.



BLOODLUST CARNAGE

by Reikisha

BERSERK WARRIORS

Following the release of the 2016 Berserk anime, Kentaro Miura's legendary manga series will be getting a third video game adaptation to celebrate the return of Berserk in modern society. Relive the events of the original manga from the Golden Age arc up to the Hawk of the Millennium Empire arc in this dark and gritty version of Omega Force's Dynasty Warriors series.

Berserk Warriors is an upcoming hack-and-slash video game developed by Omega Force and published by Koei Tecmo. It will be available for the PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4, PlayStation Vita, and PC. The game will be first released in Japan on October 27 this year for all platforms except for PC. For western territories, Berserk Warriors is set to be released in Fall 2016.

The game will be using the traditional Dynasty Warriors gameplay, but with the setting and characters from the Berserk manga. However, considering the nature of the original material, Berserk Warriors will be the most brutal Warriors game Omega Force has ever created, so expect to see lots of blood and gore whenever you cleave your way around Midland with Guts. The trailer videos from Koei Tecmo only show bits of what the Berserk game is capable of, but the overall feel of the game is a bit underwhelming compared to Arslan Warriors and Attack on Titan.

Still, Berserk Warriors is worth checking out if you are interested about Omega Force and Koei Tecmo's newest game.



Plethoric Heroes of the Norse

by Mikelle

Release date: June 2016
Developer: Vanillaware
Publisher: Atlus
Platform: PlayStation 3,
PlayStation 4 and
PlayStation Vita
Mode: Single Player
PlayStation Store Rating: 4.9/5

Odin Sphere Leifthrasir is an action RPG by Vanillaware for the PlayStation 3, PlayStation 4 and PlayStation Vita platforms. It is the HD remake of the original Odin Sphere which was released back in 2007 for the PlayStation 2 which once enticed gamers around the globe due to its uniqueness at that time.

Odin Sphere's story follows five different heroes whose destinies, at some point within the game, cross fates with each other. All five of them are equipped with Psyphers that arborbs Phozons whenever they slay an enemy. Though each of them is the protagonist of their own story, there may come a point when their story overlaps and some may appear as the antagonist depending on the situation.

Although the game's core remains loyal to the original version, Leifthrasir features many enhancements and quite a few add-ons in contrast to the original game. The combat gameplay remains similar with a few tweaks which made it more comfortable even to new players who have no experience.

It is not required to play through the original game in order for a player to enjoy Odin Sphere Leifthrasir. Gamers who recently experienced Vanillaware's other masterpieces such as Dragon's Crown and Muramasa would without a doubt pick the game up from store shelves in order to relieve another magnum opus.



Gwendolyn
CV:
Ayako
Kawasumi

Gwendolyn is a valkyrie and is the younger daughter of Demon Lord Odin. She inherited the Psypher spear when her elder sister Giselda perished in battle. Gwendolyn is loyal, noble and somewhat stubborn, yet will let herself get swept up by her feelings at rare occasions. Unbeknownst to her, Gwendolyn is being used by her father in order to gain the Crystallization Cauldron.



Mercedes
CV:
Mamiko
Notoi

Mercedes is the Princess of Ringford, the so called Fairy Land. She acquired the crossbow Psypher when her mother died in the hands of Demon Lord Odin, as well as the kingdom which her mother left behind to which she was unprepared to lead. Mercedes walks the path of a ruler that must now rise to the challenge in order to protect her realm.



Cornelius
CV:
Daisuke
Namikawa

Cornelius is the prince of Titania who is in love with Princess Velvet. Cornelius was cursed into becoming a Pooka and was then banished to the Underworld. There he met a spirit who granted him the Psypher sword which he will rely upon in order to escape from the underworld and find a way to break his curse.



Oswald
CV:
Susumu
Chiba

Shadow Knight Oswald, wielder of the black sword Psypher is renowned as a dragon slayer. His name rings true throughout the realms as an unrivaled warrior. Orphaned at a very young age, he was first taken in as an agent of Ringford but later worked for Odin in exchange for a castle, Gwendolyn's spear and of course, Gwendolyn herself. Things doesn't go as planned and Oswald was forced to act in order to claim what rightfully belongs to him.



Velvet
CV:
Miyuki
Sawashiro

Velvet is the Princess of Valentine who survived the incident of the Crystallization Cauldron. Along with her Psypher chain, she sets to and follows the prophecies in order to prevent Armageddon while learning the secrets of her lineage.





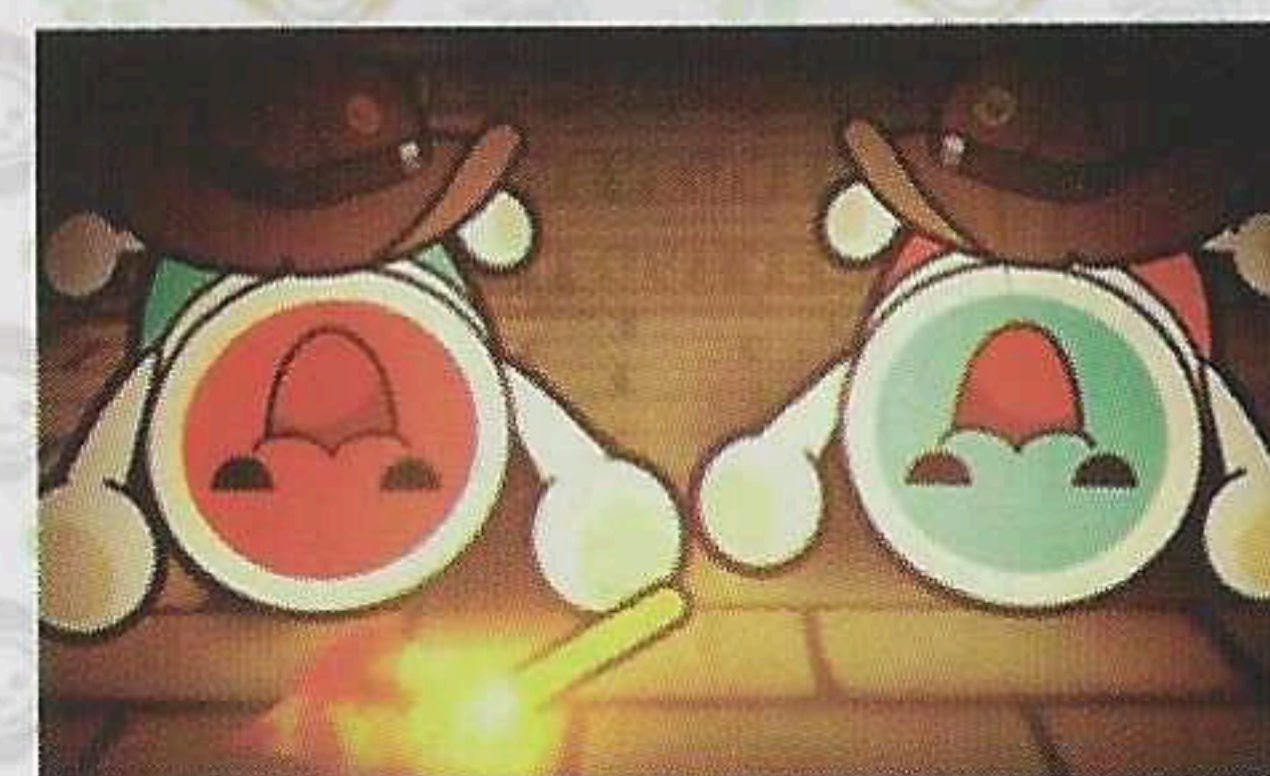
Don & Katsu the Explorer!

by Yani

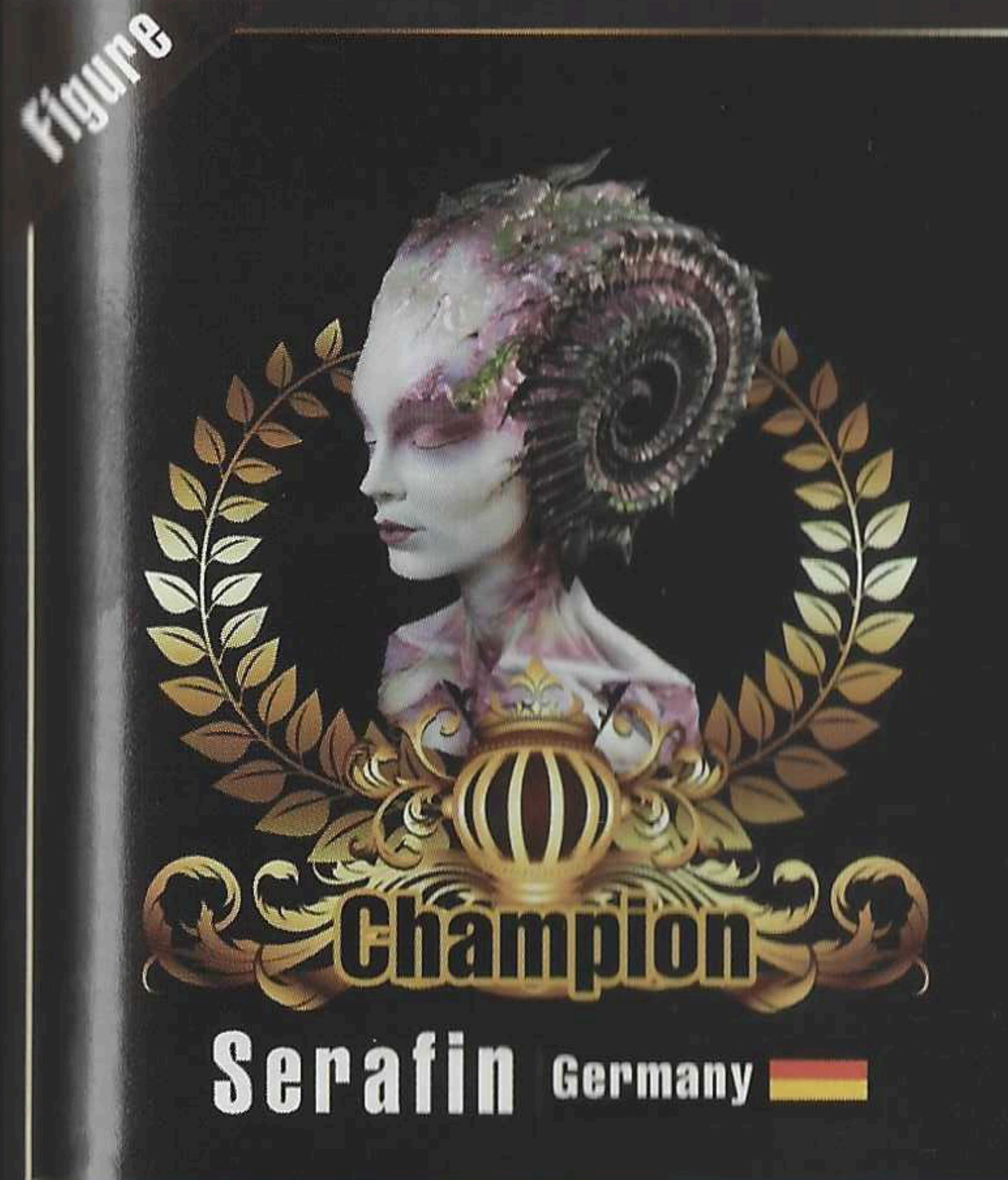
Don and Katsu were invited in a exhibition museum which showcases mysterious items in their town. However, during their museum tour, a group of magicians known as Sorcery Hexagalía suddenly appeared and stole an item which is the necklace of Lion's fang. Tia, the person whom they met at the exhibit asked for the help because bad things will happen if they wouldn't be able to get it back. At the same time, weird and irregular things suddenly were happening all around the world! Will Don and co. be able to catch Sorcery Hexagalía and the reason for the supernatural events happening the world?

Taiko no Tatsujin: Dokodon Mystery Adventure is the 3rd instalment of Taiko no Tatsujin game in Nintendo 3DS. The game was developed by Taiko team and published by Bandai Namco Entertainment which was released lat June 2016.

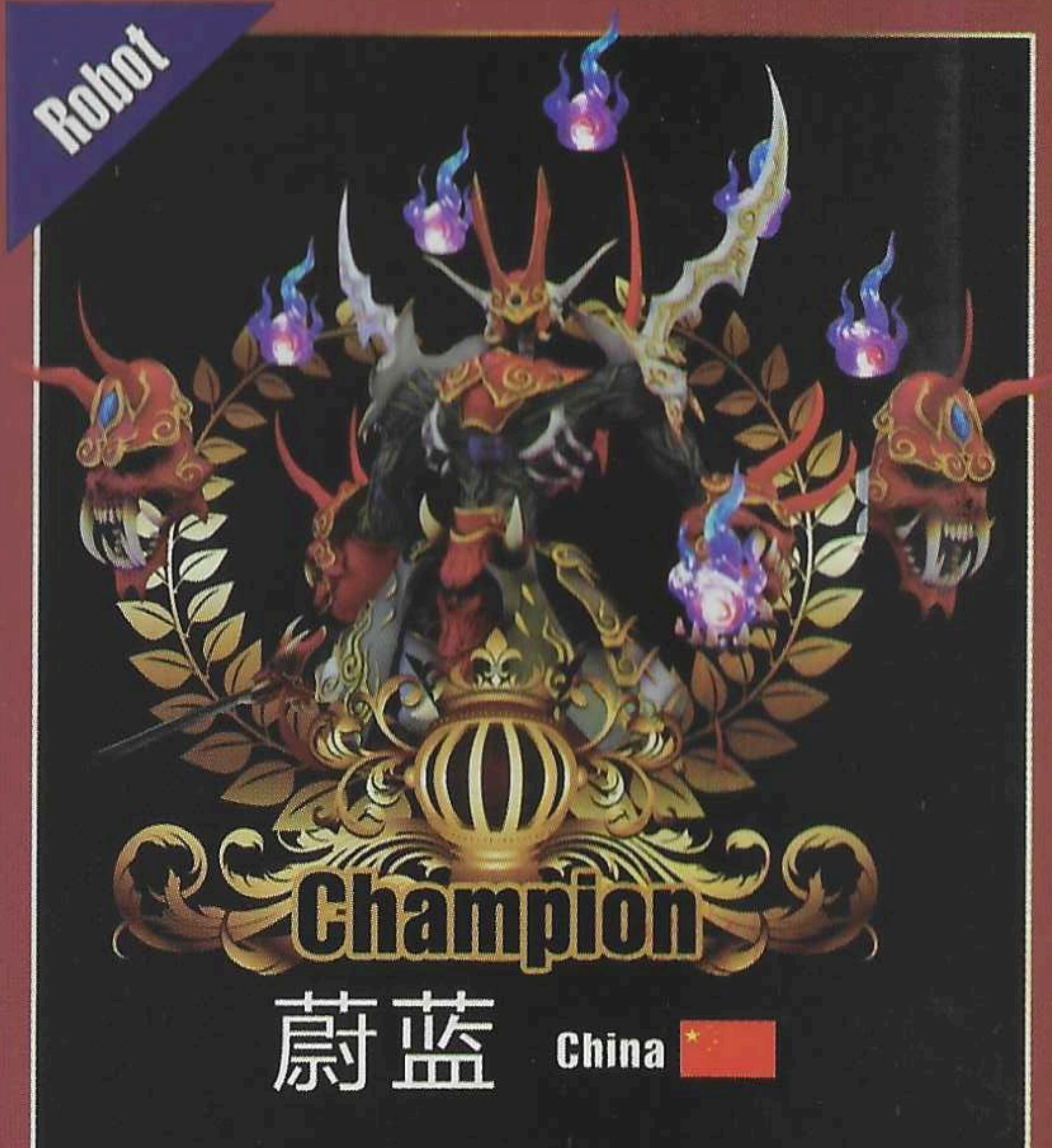
If you loved their previous game releases and especially Taiko no Tatsujin: Don and Katsu's Space-time Adventure then you will surely love this one since the gameplay is quite similar. Song list for this game includes songs like opening theme song of Assassination Classroom, Yo-kai Watch, Pokemon XYZ and One Piece. Let's get ready to play Taiko no Tatsujin once more as we help Don and Katsu find and catch Sorcery Haxagalía and solve the mysteries of the weird events happening lately in the world!



Figure



Robot





HOT ANIME

by lizac 3.0



A Future Without You ORANGE

Regrets are just a thing of the past, but for some people, they cannot move forward without doing something about it. In a future without a very special person, 26-year-old **Takamiya Naho** regrets some days in her high school life when she did not say what she means and do what she wants. Naho together with her husband **Suwa**, and friends **Hagita**, **Azusa**, and **Takako**, has always relived bittersweet memories in their reunions to ease the pain of losing **Naruse Kakeru**, their friend who passed away in high school.

But Naho wants to change the past full of regrets and prevent Kakeru's death. Naho gets the opportunity to talk to herself 10 years before the present time in the form of letters. She informs her 16-year-old self through letters to look at Kakeru closely and stop him from doing any drastic actions. She wants Kakeru in the past to be happy, even though he is no longer with them in the future.

Orange is originally a slice-of-life shoujo/seinen manga written and illustrated by **Ichigo Takano** in 2012. It has five volumes and each one has sold more than thousands of copies in Japan. A live action film was released in December 2015 starring Kento Yamazaki and Tao Tsuchiya, and became a blockbuster hit. An anime adaptation produced by **Telecom Animation** studio in cooperation with TMS Entertainment, was set to air in July 2016 with 13 episodes.

Like in the manga, the anime Orange is mostly focused on rebuilding relationships and taps the theme of depression. This is not a common recurring theme in a slice-of-life genre, so fans of this category should have a more mature take on this topic. It is not to be taken lightly despite the masked lighthearted circumstances in the anime.

As for the animation, some fans have commented on how the flow of movements of the characters could have been better. But there is no question about the scenery in Orange as the setting is the most wonderfully animated element in the series. It shows the beauty of nature that has been and what remains in the present time when the characters got older.



Takamiya Naho

(CV: Hana Kanazawa, Anri Sonohara – Durarara!!, Kosaki Onodera – Nisekoi)

Naho is often reluctant to try out new things for the fear of failure and rejection. But to make things right, she wants her 16-year-old self to enjoy high school life to the fullest through pieces of advice on her future letters. She has a family of her own with Suwa on the present timeline.

(CV: Seichirou Yamashita, Keisuke Katagiri – Haruchika)

Kakeru is Naho's special someone in high school. He is a transfer student in their first year of high school. He is a troubled teenager, but doesn't share his problems to his friends to avoid being a burden. He falls for Naho, although there are certain issues he cannot fix that eventually hinder their relationship.



Naruse Kakeru



Suwa Hiroto

(CV: Makoto Furukawa, Saitama – One Punch Man)

Suwa is Naho's longtime friend. He is friendly, being the first person who invited Kakeru into their circle even though he is a transfer student. Suwa has loved Naho ever since, but refuses to confess as he is aware of Naho's feelings for Kakeru and vice versa. In the present timeline, he becomes Naho's husband and a father to one son.



Murasaka Azusa

(CV: Natsumi Takamori, Mei Misaki – Another)

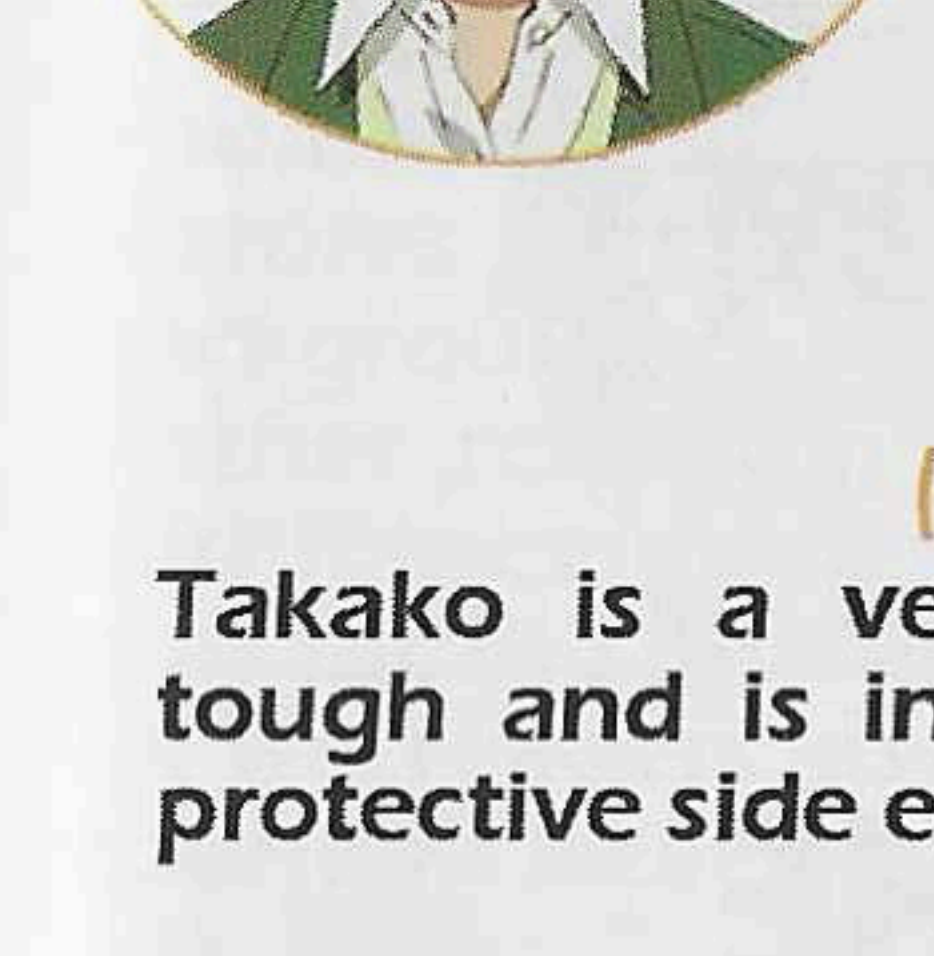
Azusa is like a beam of sunshine in the group, always encouraging people to do their best. She often argues with Hagita and has a habit of teasing him. They eventually end up together in the present timeline.



Hagita Saku

(CV: Kazuyuki Okitsu, Shimura – Tanaka-kun is Always Listless)

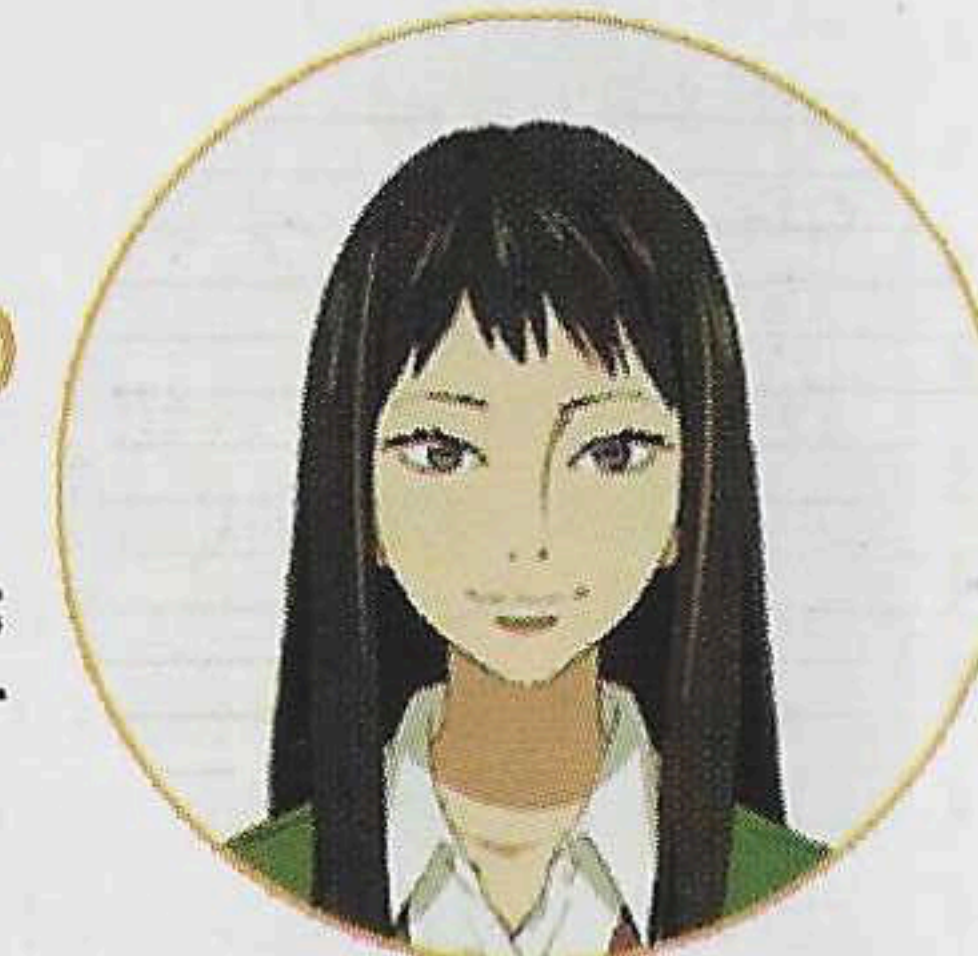
Hagita is the most intelligent in their clique. He seems disinterested in romance and topics other than science, but he cares about his friends. He is married to Azusa in the present.



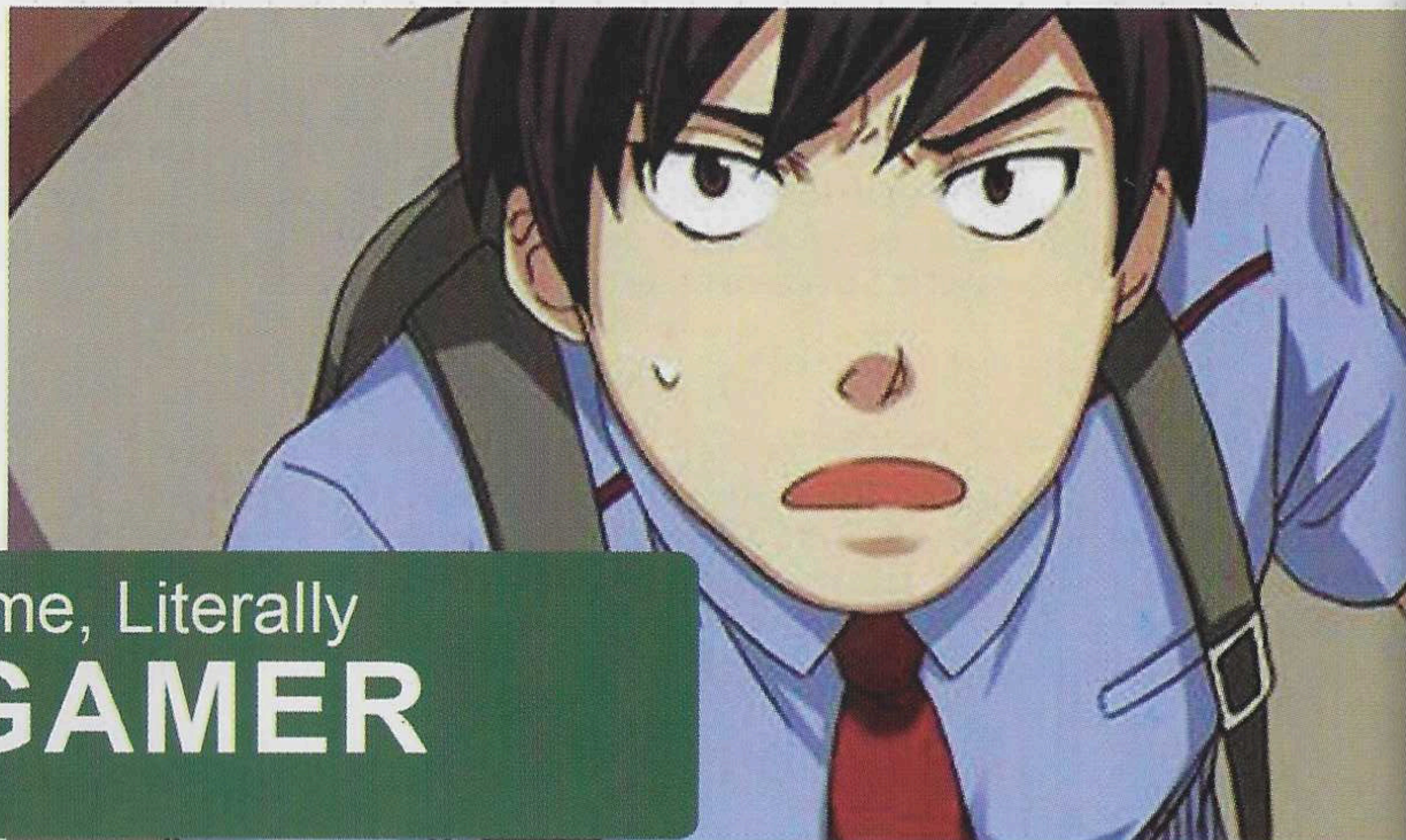
Takako Chino

(CV: Rika Kinugawa, Liddy Steinberg – Hundred)

Takako is a very reliable and supportive friend. She looks tough and is indeed a headstrong character, which shows her protective side especially to those who are bullied.



As people say, there is nothing you can do about the past, but you can somehow make it right. Live well and keep looking ahead. The anime Orange lets you delve into painful regrets, the things that could have been done, and today's presents that make your life meaningful.



Life's a Game, Literally **THE GAMER**

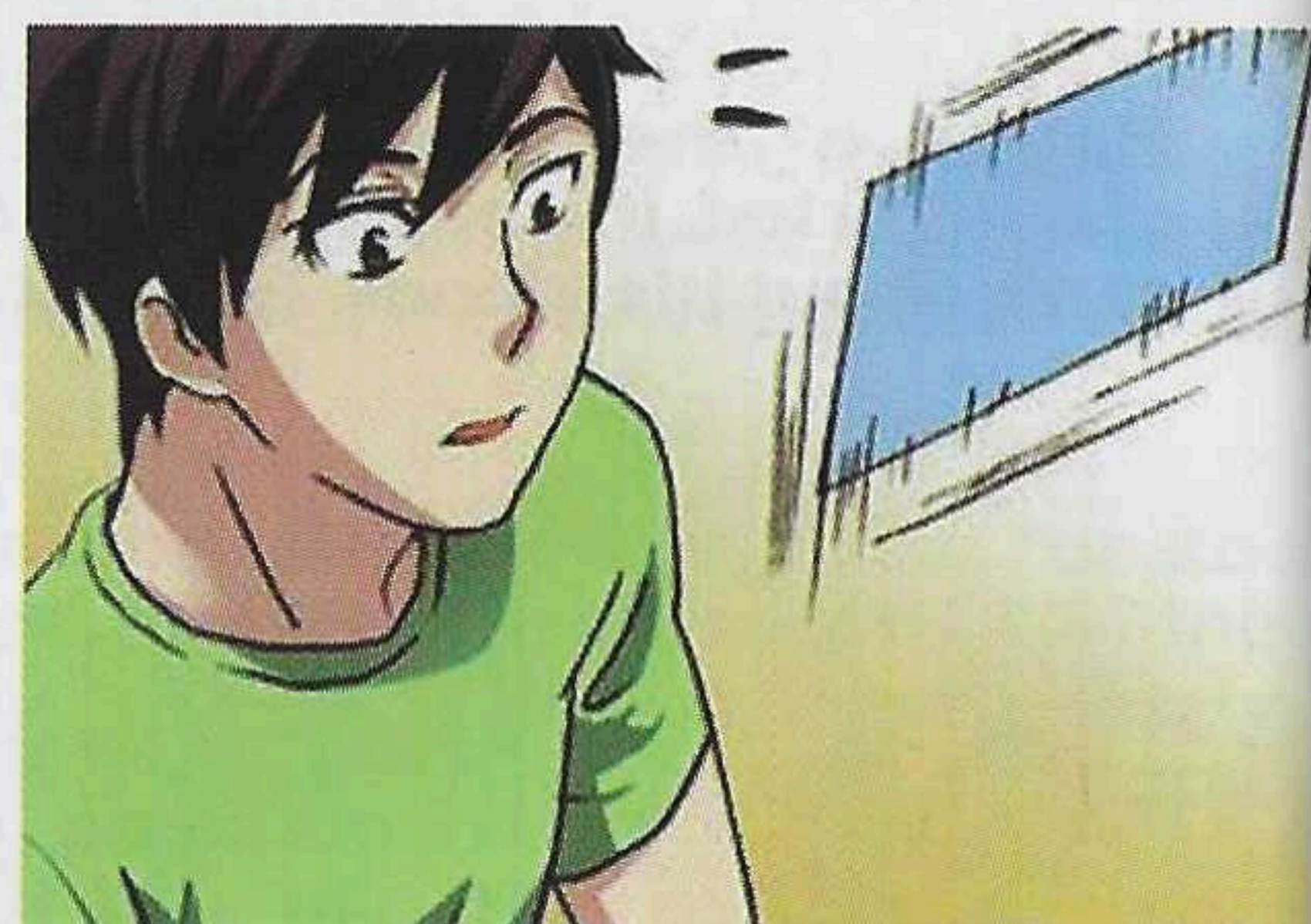
by James

They say life is a game. If you think about it from another perspective, then it is. You become a better person (level up) as you go through EXP-eriences, learn new skills and get better at them through time and practice, explore new places you've never been to before, accomplish tasks (quests), and conquer difficulties (bosses). One webtoon, however, takes the similarity between the real world and virtual world to the next level by turning the real world into like that of the virtual one. Step inside the shoes of *The Gamer* and find out what it's like.

The game, or the manhwa rather, is a webtoon that is published on **Naver** and is set in present day South Korea and revolves around **Han Jee-Han**, an average high-schooler who happens to be a gamer. One ordinary day, he notices a dialog box in front of him – and he's not even playing a game. It was a sign that he has received a special ability called **The Gamer**, which allows him to progress, earn skills, and finish quests in real life, like an RPG character does. He also discovers **The Abyss**, a world that overlaps with and threatens ours. Only a select few like him can see and travel to it, so it is up to Jee-Han and his newfound companions to combat this otherworldly threat.

The Gamer will first suck you in with its rather unique premise, but then it slows down as it becomes more of a slice-of-life with gaming jargon and elements thrown in as reference. Have patience though, because once the story gains momentum, it really does pick up and becomes a page-turner.

If you're a gamer or just would like a different kind of shonen webtoon, you'll definitely find *The Gamer* appealing. Heck, you'd probably even wish you're in it.



**THE
GAMER**

Story: Sun Sang-Youn
Illustration: Sang-Ah



Fighting Fate In A Colorful World **DOUPO CANGQIONG**

by James

It would be nothing short of amazing to have special abilities and powers. It would probably suck, though, for them to suddenly disappear mysteriously one day. Imagine how much sadness it would bring you whenever remember that you can no longer pull off astonishing feats like you used to, and that you can no longer wow anyone with them. But what if you can get them back? In exchange for loads and loads of hard work, that is. Well, of course, why not? If you think that's daunting, then you should definitely read *Doupo Cangqiong*.

Doupo Cangqiong, which is **Battle Through The Heavens** in English, is a manhwa (Chinese manga) about **Xiao Yan**, an adolescent boy who could've been considered as a genius, if only his powers didn't disappear one fateful day. Since then he's become the laughingstock of the town. His servants mock him; his family is at risk of being dishonored for a lack of a capable successor; all of his friends, save the beautiful and battle-skilled **Dai**, have left him; and the last and definitely the worst, his fiancé **Na Lan Yan Ran** is calling off the wedding – another possible family dishonor. Having had enough with his awful luck, Xiao Yan pulls off an outrageous act that sets him on a path that can lead to him regaining his powers, as well as the family's honor and prestige. It's a long and winding one, but it's definitely worth it.

The manhwa is as shounen as it can get, complete with a fiery protagonist, exciting battles, and a simple yet genuine love story. So, what sets it apart and makes it a delightful read that is light yet rich? First would be the art-style, whose character designs are very much anime-inspired, and panels that are colored, almost as if the manhwa were an anime show that was cut panel-by-panel. So if you find colored manga – or at least manga-styled comics – to be more appealing and lively, then you're going to enjoy this one. On the other hand, if you're a purist for the traditional purely ink-drawn manga but you want to read it for the story, then you're going to have to make do with the art style. Think of it as a breath of fresh air.

Secondly, and what a lot of readers probably may not appreciate, is the fact that the manhwa is very reflective of Chinese traditions and customs. Being a manhwa, it features Chinese honorifics, norms, backgrounds, and many other things to further reinforce its many inspirations. This faithfulness to its home culture is not only a plus for the plot and world-building, but also for the readers, as they may learn some of the country's beliefs and practices.

Doupo Cangqiong is a manhwa whose quirky designs, vivid color (literally), fast-paced yet smart plot, and cultural references are more than enough to keep readers of manga and manga-inspired comic readers going back for more and more. Mangaka in Japan better watch out, because they got a bit of competition.





Don't Fall in Love with Your Rival LAST GAME

by lizac 3.0

Since grade school, everyone has praised **Yanagi Hisato**: a rich, handsome boy with admirable qualities. He regards himself as the Unbeatable King as no one in his class can beat his top spot in exams and extracurricular activities. But one day, his life is shaken when a certain **Kujou Mikoto** enrolls at his school. Upon the arrival of this transfer student, Yanagi's ranking in every aspect of his school life dropped to only the good second. In both sports and academics, he has lost miserably to Kujou. Referred to as the Iron Daughter, Kujou is a quiet girl who is also very poor. This makes Yanagi even more fired up in defeating her as he has all the resources for the best things in life while Kujou has none.

For ten years, Yanagi's competitive streak has continued to rise, the height of it reaches when he is still classmates with his greatest rival in high school. In order to reclaim his title as number one, an absurd idea comes to his mind: make Kujou fall for him and realize her feelings. But it looks like Yanagi is slowly losing in the game he was so confident in winning at first. What could be the result of this never ending game?

Last Game is a completed comedy and shoujo manga written and illustrated by **Amano Shinobu**. It was published by **Hakusensha** and serialized in **LaLa** magazine in 2011. Each volume of the manga had good reception in Japan, making it almost at par with other popular shoujo manga like *Kaichou wa Maid-sama* and *Tonari no Kaibutsu-kun*.

The development of the story is painfully slow, but the characters are fascinating enough to hold the readers' interest. It is exciting to find out how Yanagi is slowly realizing his deep-rooted feelings for Kujou, as being the only constant friend in her school life. Aside from the love angle, *Last Game* also explores the importance of friendships and bonding, based on the fact that Kujou doesn't have many friends until she joined the Astronomy Club in university. The characters are cutely drawn and their personalities mesh well with each other. Yanagi is persistent and Kujou being very dense.

Only people who don't use their minds lose to their rivals, as Yanagi's firm mindset used to be. But if Yanagi accepts his newfound feelings, the change will be beautiful. Read *Last Game* to find out more about the two's interesting relationship!



My Will is to Protect TATE NO YUUSHA NO NARIAGARI

by lizac 3.0

You get into a game. You are given a role as a hero. You have a weapon, but you cannot attack. What's the use of being called a hero if the only one you can protect is yourself?

Iwatani Naofumi is just another university student spending some quiet time in the public library. He finds a book entitled, *The Weapons of the Four Heroes*. It talks about a world that summons four heroes from the other world in the verge of apocalypse. The next pages are blank, however, and he suddenly gets thrown into another dimension. The situation is what was exactly stated in the book: the end is near and four warriors need to be summoned in order to save their world. Naofumi was the last to come, and besides him, there are three other young men from his world.

Unfortunately, Naofumi is assigned as the shield hero; the one who has a purely defensive weapon. Unlike the Sword, the Lance, and the Bow, the Shield cannot draw attacks; it only offers protection. This liability has already earned him unfair treatment and disgust from the people of the kingdom. Even his volunteer comrade Mein betrays him in just a span of one night, leaving him with nothing. He decides to buy a slave from a shady citizen at a cheap price. The slave is Raphtalia, a demi-human. Despite being trainable, Raphtalia is prone to many panic attacks. Naofumi must adjust to his slave to do his duty to protect, and in turn, encourage Raphtalia to have the will to fight.

Tate no Yuusha no Nariagari or *The Rising of the Shield Hero* is originally a light novel written by Aneko Yusagi and illustrated by Minami Seira in 2013. It is published by Media Factory in Japan, and its English publisher is One Peace Books. Later, a shounen manga adaptation was written by Aiya Kyuu in 2014, also published by Media Factory with five volumes so far.

The manga explores the world of the underdog Naofumi, who has not gained any experience yet in a world where the only thing that matters is how to get stronger. It also shows how he deals with people who misjudge him. It is worthy of note that Naofumi stays honorable even though he is surrounded by ill-willed people. The art is profound in detail when it comes to their wardrobe, but most especially, the monsters they have to fight are depicted eerily.

The Hero of the Shield is often belittled, but Naofumi will soon prove them otherwise. Join him and Raphtalia in their quest to getting stronger and fighting the impending apocalypse.





Let's Have an Affair NISEKOI DOUMEI

by lizac 3.0

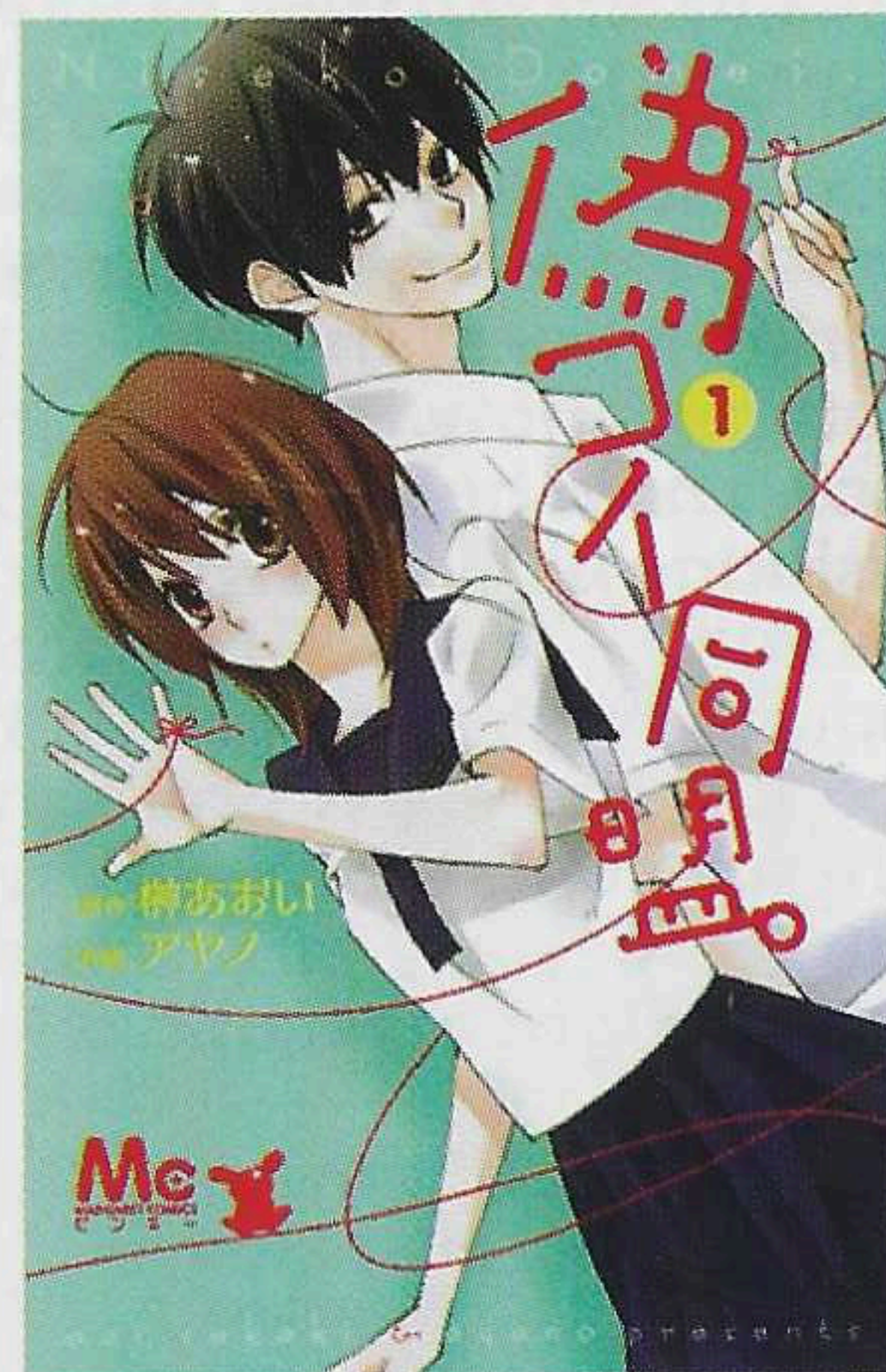
Never underestimate the power of a broken heart. It could be vengeful and unforgiving. Add one more grieving heart and you've got two conspirators in the making.

Asana Mayuri has a happy relationship with her boyfriend, **Matsumoto Kaname**. Likewise, **Aizawa Youji** loves his cute girlfriend **Sakura** dearly. But in a fateful encounter one afternoon, they find their respective boyfriend and girlfriend alone in a classroom, kissing. Devastated and heartbroken, Asana suggests that she and Aizawa make an affair, too. The situation sounds absurd for normal people, but for two teenagers who have been betrayed by their beloved, it is the only thing they can do to heal themselves. This is how Asana and Aizawa became fake lovers.

Nisekoi Doumei is an ongoing shoujo manga written by **Aoi Sakaki** and illustrated by **Ayano**. It was published by **Shueisha** in 2012. It was serialized in the magazines **Everstar** and **MangaBox**. Each chapter contains only five pages, so readers can expect a fast-paced development in the plot and characters.

Although the plot is not original as fake dating and love contracts are a well-celebrated theme in media now, **Nisekoi Doumei** is an interesting read because of the situation they forcefully put themselves in. It sounds absurd for normal people, but for two teenagers who have been betrayed by their beloved, it is the only thing they can do to heal themselves. It is mostly hilarious that they haven't talked to their significant other about the incident and immediately jumped to fake dating, as if it is the only solution to the problem and they are excited to do it. The art is beautifully drawn and the characters are interesting. Asana is quite indecisive, making her change plans the last minute. Aizawa on the other hand, does not approve of the fake affair first, but ends up being the more eager one. Eventually, they find comfort in each other and started becoming closer as their fake affair slowly blooms into friendship and something more.

Nothing good comes out of revenge, but perhaps for Asana and Aizawa, it is a tool for comfort and healing, as they finally realize how real love can come out of a made-up love affair.



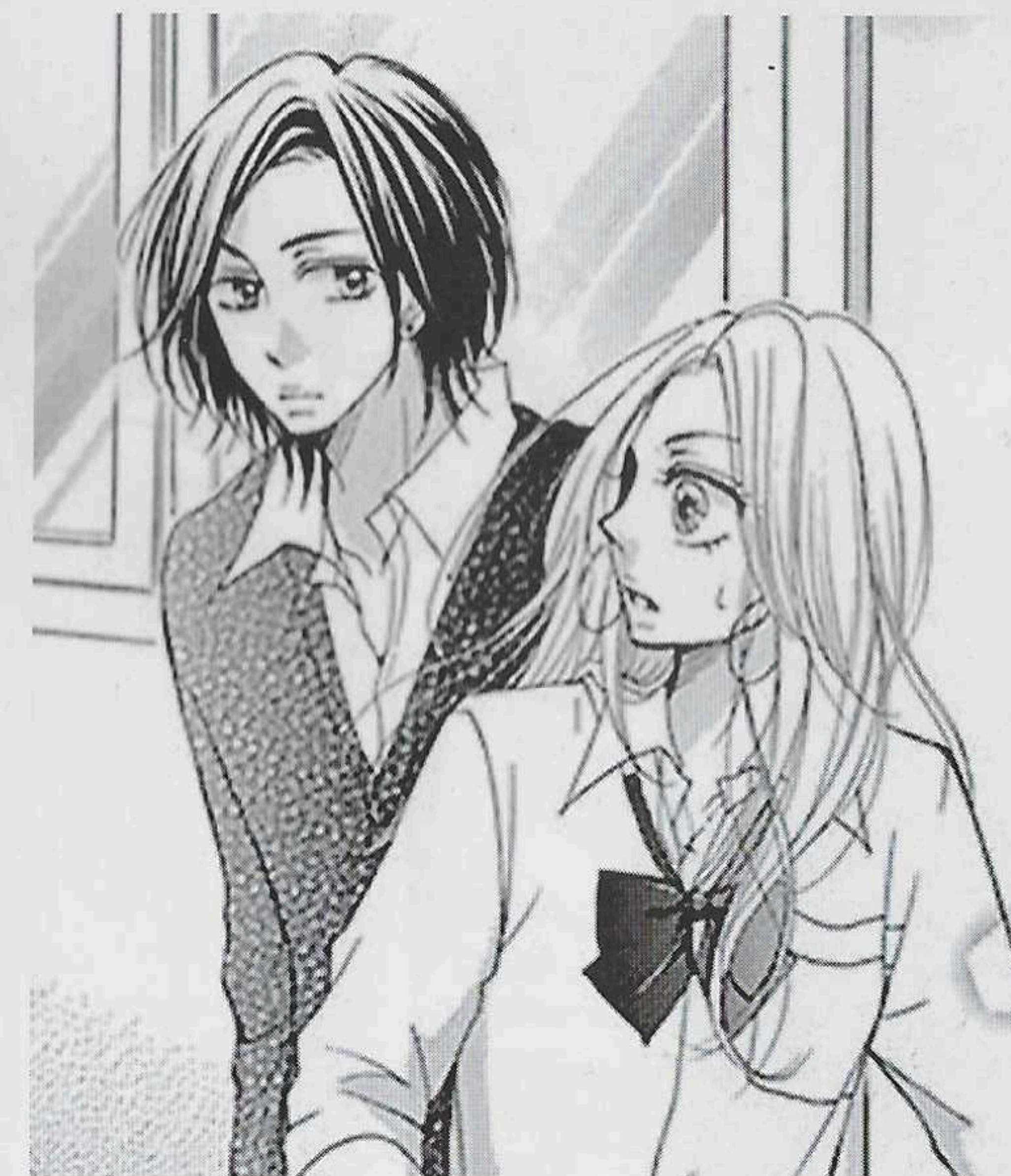
And Seven Years Later He's Still Rude RYUUNOSUKE-KUN WA YASASHIKUNAI by lizac 3.0

We all know the saying "Puberty hit them hard!" and it's true that some people seem unrecognizable from when they were children compared to now. But some characteristics just won't change.

The same thing happened to **Akane** when she bumps into a handsome guy not knowing it was her childhood friend and first love, **Ryuunosuke**. Akane thought he was a stalker at first, but she finally recognized him during the class introduction. It turns out that he transferred again to their neighborhood after leaving seven years ago and is now enrolled to the same school. Ryuunosuke makes a move on her but she just had a boyfriend a day ago. Talk about timing, but Ryuunosuke was rude as ever: calls her flashy, calls other people ugly, and even sneaks from behind to touch her hand despite the presence of her boyfriend. First impressions last and Ryuunosuke might not be able to redeem himself that easily.

Ryuunosuke-kun wa Yasashikunai is a romance and slice-of-life shoujo manga written and illustrated by **Asano Aya** in 2014. It has two volumes published by **Shogakukan** and serialized in the magazine **Cheese!** The manga focuses on the changes between two childhood sweethearts who got separated through distance and time.

Ayano Aya's art is easy to spot in a pool of manga. The artist's trademark is the large eyes and long eyelashes. As for the characters, there's a huge contrast in their personalities and the author made it obvious based on their behavior towards each other. For Ryuunosuke, his love story with Akane has just started, so he is enthusiastic to get her attention. Meanwhile, Akane who now has a boyfriend is confused because her first love is back. The events that unfold will also make the characters discover their deeper feelings and also themselves.



Ryuunosuke-kun wa Yasashikunai is a shoujo manga that is full of eye-candy characters and the solid presence of lookism culture in it. But more than that, there's true love that awaits by the end of the line that knows no outward appearances.



SHOKUGEKI NO SOMA

食戟のソーマ



THE FOOD BATTLE CONTINUES

by Yani

The season starts with the main tournament of the Autumn Elections where the theme is bento. The first match has Souma facing Alice. Alice presents her Temari Sushi bento that acids each sushi to compliment the next. However, Souma presents a Nori bento that looks like a normal bento or perhaps there is a surprise with his bento that will beat Alice? Let's find out.

Shokugeki no Souma: Ni no Sara is the 2nd season of the anime Shokugeki no Souma that was directed by Yoshitomo Yonetani and written by Shogo Yasugawa. The opening theme used for this season is called "Rough Diamonds" performed by SCREEN mode and while the ending song used is called "Snow Drop" performed by Nano Ripe.

At a glance you could tell that this is a food anime not because of its title but because the graphics are really good. Even if it is an anime, there is a tendency where you'll drool at the food they prepare and make throughout the series. I like also that there is character development happening as the series moves on with everyone. This anime is also enticing us to try cooking amazing food with ourselves. Let's follow Souma's battle in this season while craving for the food he makes throughout the series!

CHARACTERS:



Megumi Tadokoro

CV: Minami Takahashi

She is Souma's cooking partner. She has neat skills in cooking however does not have confidence in herself resulting in poor performance. Her secret weapon in cooking is hospitality where you can feel familial love and nostalgia on her dishes.



Souma Yukihira

CV: Yoshitsugu Matsuoka

He used to work at his father's restaurant Yukihira until it closed. He always challenge his father at a cooking match though he loses everytime. He regards his failures to be useful to him in the future. He also gets along with everyone with his personality and he's confident with himself.



Erina Nakiri

CV: Risa Taneda

She considers Souma as a rival in cooking. She came from a prestigious family that is known for high class Japanese food chain, the Totsuki Corporation. She has the thing called the "god's tongue" where she can describe any food accurately.





MOVIE REEL

by Mikelle



KINGSLAIVE

FINAL FANTASY XV

Kingsglaive: Final Fantasy XV is a Japanese CGI film by **Visual Works** and **Square Enix**. The film is written by **Takashi Hasegawa**, directed by **Takeshi Nozue** and produced by **Hajime Tabata**. Kingsglaive is connected to the Fabula Nova Crystallis series and is based solely on the upcoming 2016 game **Final Fantasy XV**. The film premiered in Japan last July 2016 and was released to other countries in August with English language.



The world of **Eos** once houses many crystals that are in possession of different nations; now only the kingdom of **Lucis** holds the only remaining crystal on the planet. The tyrant empire **Niflheim** now sets its sights on **Lucis** in order to obtain the crystal and conquer the world. In response to the approaching calamity, **King Regis** signed a peace treaty with **Niflheim** in order to avoid unnecessary loss while giving up most of his territory. As a sign of agreement, **Prince Noctis** was promised to marry the former princess of **Tenebrae**, **Lunafreya Nox Fleuret**. Ultimately, it turns out that the treaty was only a ruse and was the trigger for **Niflheim** to invade **Lucis**.

Parallel to the events of **Final Fantasy XV**, the movie features the events surrounding **Regis Lucis Caelum CXIII** along with the elite guards that defend the kingdom, the **Kingsglaive**. **Nyx Ulric**, the main protagonist, is tasked as being the guard of **Lunafreya**.

To avoid developing a series of games, much like what happened with the **Final Fantasy XIII** trilogy, **Square Enix** planned to release multimedia expansion of **Final Fantasy XV** which resulted to **Brotherhood: Final Fantasy XV** and **Kingsglaive: Final Fantasy XV**. Fans worldwide argue whether this will be a good thing for the franchise.

Fans who've watched the film should have also taken notice of the breathtaking music throughout the whole film. The music was handled by **Yoko Shimomura** and **John R. Graham** who also composed the scores for **Final Fantasy XV**.

If we reminisce about **Final Fantasy VII: Advent Children** that took the globe by storm; since **Final Fantasy VII** was one of the most famous trademark and pivotal release of the **Final Fantasy** franchise, **Advent Children's** release some years after was like a revolutionary salvation for fans. In contrast, **Kingsglaive** which was released prior to the original game would definitely have a different effect towards fans. But make no mistake; **Kingsglaive** is also an exhilarating experience that would leave your mouth gaping during the intense action scenes.

Overall, **Kingsglaive** is one hell of an opening act for the **Final Fantasy XV** game. For those who missed the theatre release, fret not since **Kingsglaive** will also be bundled along with the **Deluxe** and **Ultimate Edition** release of **Final Fantasy XV** which will be available later this year.



BITS

「RING」
SADAKO VS KAYAKO
貞 VS 伽椰子 「JU-ON」

the
Haunt
is
On

by Ann

Some jokes are good while others are bad, but some become the most brilliant ideas!

One of them was posted on April Fools' Day last year on the website of Ju-on: The Final. The result? A real Sadako vs. Kayako film!



Known for using a video to appear and perform a series of murder to anyone who sees it, **Sadako Yamamura** (Runa Endo) of Ring's franchise relives her curse in this film but finds that she must face another spirit with a vengeance. After manifesting herself in a video that a social worker found, her video came into the hands of university students **Natsumi Ueno** (Almi Satsukawa) and **Yuri Kurahashi** (Mizuki Yamamoto). Through a series of mishaps and the help of **Keizō Tokiwa** (Masanobu Ando), Yuri, along with **Tamao** (Mai Kikuchi), and **Suzuka Takagi** (Tina Tamashiro), enter the cursed house of **Kayako Saeki** (Elly Nanami) and **Toshio Saeki** (Rintaro Shibamoto) of the Ju-on franchise to create a battle between the two spirits. Who will win and have the right to claim the lives of the cursed?

Sadako vs. Kayako was released in cinemas starting June in Japan but was presented in the Philippines the following month. It is the final and the 12th film of both franchises. **Kōji Shiraishi** directed the film from the work of writers **Takashi Shimizu** and **Koji Suzuki**.

Apart from the already exciting mash-up of the most popular horror stars of Japan, people all over the world were stunned by the promotions that the production team created for it. For one, both characters appeared in what would seem as campaign speeches to convince the audience to vote for them in a popularity contest. However, as one could imagine, these spirits are not ones for talking, so with the help of their interpreters, they were able to send out the message that they are scarier than the other. Counting the Twitter vote in, Sadako won this public appeal, but that did not end their entertaining show-off.

In a baseball match between Nippon-Ham Fighters and the Yakult Swallows in the Sapporo Dome, Sadako, Kayako, and Toshio appear in the field to have a brief baseball game. In it, Sadako throws the ball, Kayako hits it with a bat, and Toshio retrieves it and does a touchdown. On the other hand, the team released some videos in which the three are seen humorously reminding everyone about the age requirement to watch the film, special price for women, special popcorn combo, the social media face-off, and other theater etiquettes. As mentioned, Sadako and Kayako use their social media accounts to gather more souls into their dispute. Sadako uses Twitter (@sadako3d) while Kayako has an Instagram account (KayakowithToshio), the latter posting pictures of the mother-son bonding of Kayako and Toshio in everyday settings.

If their promotional efforts aren't entertaining enough, then the film does justice to give these two the strong finale they deserve. So catch up on Sadako vs. Kayako to see the fate of many, including yours in their haunting season!

THE GAMES WE PLAY
- OA TEAM

KANDDY

**Favorite game genre:** Strategy/ Tactical RPG**Console:** I don't have a console now but I'm looking forward to getting a PS Vita**Top 3 games:** None because I don't have a console or even a smart phone.**Why do you play them?** Because it challenges my ability in problem solving and leadership. I also enjoy going through the story of the game. I used to play Disgaea and Ace Attorney in school but "gamers" said I was weird. I don't get it but as long as I'm having fun and not hurting anyone, it's all good!

YANI

**Favorite game genre:** Rhythm, RPG, horror**Console:** Android, Playstation**Top 3 games:** Love Live! School Idol Festival, Pokemon Go!, Touch! Gudetama.

I started playing Love Live! when Aqours was officially included in the game because of Ruby since she was my favorite character and I really like everything about Aqours~ hihi. After that, I also got hooked to it and started to like and enjoy other Muse songs as well aside from the songs released in the anime. Aside from Love Live, I also play Taiko no Tatsujin and Hatsune Miku Project Diva. I play Pokemon Go because I wanna be the very best... Joke. The game made me go out of house during weekends and separate me from my 'gudetama mode'. I play Touch me! Gudetama because Gudetama is my favorite Sanrio character and I got to see the other types & forms~

JUPITER

**Favorite game genre:** RPG**Console:** PC & PS4 (even I don't have)**Top 3 games:** Aside from League of Legends... none because I need an upgrade for my pc to play the games I want like AC syndicate, Farcry 4 and GTA... I love playing such game because it will challenge your wittiness and planning skill in order to defeat your opponent.

REN

**Favorite game genre:** RPG**Console:** PC, PSP, PS2, Mobile Phone**Top 3 games you play:** Final Fantasy Type 0, Legend of Zelda: Minish Cap and Pokemon Go. More though (can't help to add, sorry): FF9, Metal Gear Solid 3, Fallout 3, Tenchu...**Why do you play them?**

FF Type 0 - As a fan of Final Fantasy, FF Type 0 is one of the series that can't be missed out. The action style gameplay along with its amazing story with the unique members of Class 0 are only one of the few things that attracted me to play this. LoZ - this LoZ is actually the first one that I tried and played that made me hooked to the series and made Link one of my most favorite characters. The interesting story and its action-with-puzzles made me want to play more! Pokemon Go - as a fan of Pokemon games, I didn't think twice to download the game when was available in our country. The gameplay itself is very addicting and makes me want to check my surroundings for Pokemon every once in a while.

LIZAC 3.0

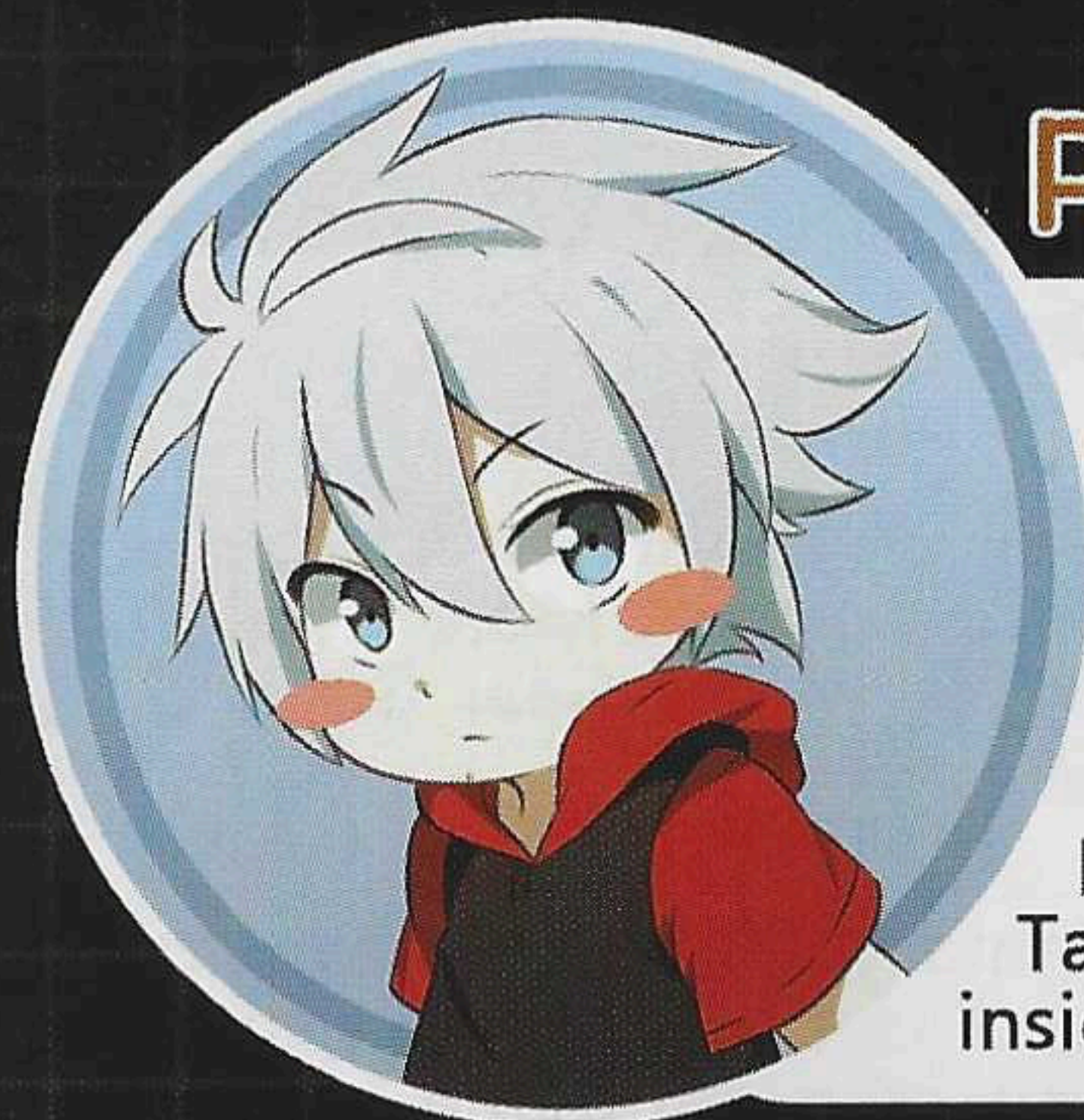
**Favorite game genre:** KRPG, Hack n'Slash, Survival**Console:** Android

Not really playing these genres lately but just recently I got addicted to Just Shout, a mob-fighting game. For me it's a stress-reliever. You don't have to think, there is no grand objective, you just have to kill and collect weapons as you go along the game.

XANDER

**Favorite game genre:** Rhythm / RPG**Console:** Iphone, N3DS**Top 3 games:** Love Live School idol Festival, Monster Hunter Generations & Candy Crush Soda. I'm playing Love Live SIF everyday, because I really LOVE μ's, it's really enjoyable since I got to know more of their many songs that weren't included on Anime, also the fact that you can collect every members on different outfit! I really love to draw each of them. At first I weren't paying that much attention on AQOURS members, but I started to like them when the Love Live Sunshine started airing :). For Monster

Hunter, I recently just got into it, started playing it with my friend, I really like it! And for Candy Crush Soda, when I'm bored travelling and no Internet connection, it's really good life saver.



REIKISHA

Favorite game genre: RPG, FPS, Hack n' Slash

Console: PS Vita

Top 3 games: Grand Kingdom - This game has a refreshing gameplay mechanic which made it very addicting to play. It's also allowing you to have up to six mercenary squads rallying under your banner! Fate/Grand Order - I'm playing it for Scahath and Tamamo no Mae. Dark Souls III - I like dying over and over inside a video game, okay?

JAMES

Favorite game genre: MOBA and RPG

Console: PC and 3DS

Top 3 Games: Pokemon Y: Huge Pokemon fan for 16 years; I even bought a 3DS for this. Dazzling effects, 3D world, well-crafted and fully-animated Pokemon models and battles, and online competition? How can I not love it? DoTA 2: A graphical and engine update of the original MOBA. Need I say more? Final Fantasy Type-0 HD: A bloody marriage between Final Fantasy VIII and Suikoden.



ANN

Favorite game genre: Adventure, Strategy

Console: Android

Top 3 games: I loved to play Pokemon through my cousin's Gameboy. I've played versions Red, Ruby, and Emerald. Honestly, I like the Gameboy versions more than the current Pokemon Go because I prefer to stay indoors when playing video games. Pokemon captured my heart with the idea that I can go on an adventure and be the best that I can be by collecting as many Pokemon as I want, especially the legendary ones, and training them to get stronger, hence, easier to defeat other trainers.

For a while, I also played video games on my cousin's PlayStation, and while it may not be popular to the experts, my favorite was Rugrats: Search for Reptar, a 3D platform game. I guess I just liked the different challenges that came with these cartoon characters I grew up with. Finally, the game I've been playing lately (though not frequently) is Adventure Time's Card Wars Kingdom. Since I'm into Adventure Time, I figured it was time to learn what makes Jake the Dog like this so much. I learned that I really enjoy thinking of strategies to maximize the potential of my cards and take advantage of the weaknesses of the other player.



MIKELLE

Favorite game genre: RPG, Tactics

Console: PlayStation, Mobile

Top 3 games: Fate Grand Order, Pokemon Go and Danganronpa 2

Why do you play them? I don't play them because I want to, I play games because I need to. To me, games are like visual novel heroines that are begging to be conquered. So much games to play, many endings to see and more salts to share. RIP sanity points.

KAHLUA

Favorite game genre: RPG, Strategy

Consoles: Android, PC (hurray emulators!)

Top 3 games: Pokemon Emerald, Pokemon White 2 Twenty/ 2048/ Piano Tiles

I have two moods for playing: when I want to think and when I don't. If I do, I would play rpg's, if I don't I play strategy endless games, like those that I can play while my mind is floating away (those in the top 3), haha. Pokemon is life. Right now I just want to see generation 3 again so I'm doing Emerald, then also White 2 coz I want to remember pokemons in Unova by heart, haha.



RPG is the genre being played by most of the OA team followed by Strategy.

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#THROWBACK

BLUE BOMBER: THE ANIME

MEGA MAN

by Reikisha



Mega Man was, undoubtedly, one of the few video games that's very popular among children back in the day. Those who are born in the 90's and used to own a Nintendo Entertainment System, a Family Computer, or a Game Boy will never forget the joy and frustration they felt after beating the first two Mega Man games. After the Blue Bomber's success in the old consoles, it spawned multiple games that are set centuries after the events of the original series (X, Zero, ZX, and Legends) and a few spin-off games (Battle Network).

Hold on! We can talk about the Mega Man games all we want, but... Do you still remember about the animated series?

Mega Man was a Japanese-American animated TV series based on the original Mega Man games. The show was multi-produced by **Capcom**, **Ruby-Spears Productions**, **Ashi Productions**, and **Ocean Productions**. It ran for 2 seasons starting from September 11, 1994 to December 10, 1995. Originally, it should run for 3 seasons, but the show was canceled due to budget constraints.

In the Philippines, the Mega Man animated series was aired on local TV every morning for kids. The show's running theme was to have Mega Man thwart Dr. Wily's plans and defeat the industrial robots-turned-evil minions. As kids, we didn't notice how the show was completely different from the original game. From the way both Mega Man and Roll was designed, to Mega Man's habit of making puns during battle. If you get the chance to rewatch the 1994 Mega Man series, you too will realize that the show is a bit weird for a kids' show.

Nevertheless, Mega Man was the only animated series that had a connection with the first Mega Man timeline. The series may be a bit different from the established plot of the game, but it still became a part of our childhood.



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